



Report and pictures from South Wales police's annual open day on page 6.

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THURSDAY, JUNE 25TH, 2009

COUNCIL TOTS UP THE BALANCE SHEET AS REPORT HIGHLIGHTS £140,000 OVERSPEND FOR YEAR...

Free parking at a store costs local taxpayers £340,000

THE decision by Asda to introduce free car parking at its Bridgend store has cost council taxpayers £340,000.

That's the drop in income suffered by Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC), as a result of losing the Brackla short stay car park (which was demolished to make way for Asda) and of the store's decision to scrap car parking charges and let shoppers park for free.

The council had initially been promised cash from the store car park to offset its lost income – but since Asda brought in free parking, talks have been under way between the company and the council about financial compensation.

It is understood that there has also been a knock-on effect on income from the other town centre car parks, as motorists try to park for nothing at Asda instead of paying elsewhere.

The figures were contained in a financial report to cabinet on how the authority spent its money in the financial year 2008-09, ending in April.

The council approved a budget of £213.7m for that year, but there was a net overspend of £142,000 during the

REPORT by JAYNE ISAAC

year. The biggest overspend was in the communities directorate, which includes highways, planning and environmental services.

This stands at almost £1million, with the overspend by the wellbeing directorate, which covers leisure and adult social services, standing at £262,000.

But they were offset by underspends in other directorates, including £618,000 in the children's which covers education and children's social services.

Within the children's directorate, the schools' budget was £134,000 overspent, mainly because of increased spending on special needs education, including providing extra help to schools as a result of increased demands on the service.

The report states that this expenditure had been increased in the budget, but in the end this was not enough to cover rising costs, which increased by five per cent on the previous year.

But there was an underspend of £182,000 on school buses and £299,000 on school meals.

Income was increased here because of more school days in the school year. Also, there was

extra income from the breakfast clubs, with seven more being started up.

They receive start-up grants from the Welsh Assembly.

The looked-after children budget, for those in care, was overspent by £597,000, with higher demand for independent fostering placements but lower than expected for in-house fostering.

The wellbeing directorate budget was overspent by £262,000 – mainly as a result of the unachieved £100,000 savings on Meals on Wheels provision.

This was an election issue, with Labour pledging to continue the existing service – but the Rainbow Alliance, which was running the council until May 2008, looking for changes.

The budget was set by the Rainbow Alliance, but was inherited by Labour when it won the election.

The council spent £432,000 less than expected on residential care for the elderly because of fewer placements in both residential and nursing homes.

Home Care spending was up because of increased referrals to the service, and savings on day care services fell short of the target.

Residential care for

people with learning disabilities exceeded the budget by £130,000, but spending on home care fell because some work is now done by three independent providers, reducing costs.

There were overspends on the arts and entertainment budget, including the Brynagarw Festival; the library service because of increased energy and building maintenance; and sport and recreation, which was £192,000 over budget.

The communities directorate overspend of £997,000 represents 3.9 per cent of the annual budget.

The council incurred £465,000 extra spending because of increased costs of dealing with waste at the MREC plant in Jersey Marine.

There was also an increase in the amount of waste collected at civic amenity sites, which had to be disposed of.

The snow and flooding incidents resulted in £240,000 extra spending in the highways and fleet department.

In all, this department overspent by £428,000.

There was also an overspend on sports pavilions because of urgent repairs during the winter and increased energy prices.

This added another £175,000 to the overspend.

Penybont pupils are the road safety champions

TWELVE primary schools from across Bridgend borough battled it out earlier this month to be crowned Road Safety Quiz Champions in the Odeon Cinema at the Pines.

Organised and held by South Wales Police and the Bridgend County Borough Council Road Safety Partnership, the quiz final has come after a month of preliminary heats which started in May. The top three schools from each weekly heat landed a place in last Friday's final.

After winning two of the five rounds, Thomas Williams, Ayisha Dyer, Jade Harvey and Sam Griffiths from Penybont Primary



ABOVE: The Mayor presents the winning team from Penybont Primary School with their plaques.

School in Sunnyside, Bridgend were crowned overall winners with an incredible 67 points.

With just half a mark between themselves and Penybont, Trelales Primary School from Laleston, were worthy runners-up with a score of 66.

As a result of all their hard work,

PC Jon Stewart, who organised the quiz with fellow school liaison officers PC Gavin Lynch, PC Steve

Carpenter and PC Chris Warlow, said: "Helping children to learn about road safety is another way we can engage with them and encourage safety in our communities."

"Knowing the children will take their road safety knowledge outside of the school gates makes the whole process worthwhile."

Goodbye to the Embassy?

AN ICONIC Bridgend landmark may be demolished.

An application has been lodged by owner Mel Mathias to demolish the old Embassy Cinema which stands at the gateway into Bridgend.

The building gave its name to the Embassy Bridge, removed more than a decade ago when the new cross valley link road was opened, which took traffic out of the town centre.

The cinema was opened in 1939 and built of brick in the art-deco style. Its heyday was during the war and the 1950s, when it was the town's premier cinema.

Long queues would form to see popular films, and when *Summer Holiday* with Cliff Richard was screened in 1962, the queue stretched as far as the bridge.

It closed in the mid 1980s and then became the Ritz Bingo Hall, but this eventually closed and it was bought by local businessman Mr Mathias, who owns Centre Great.

He originally had plans to convert it into a restaurant and theatre.

However, he has now lodged an application to demolish it and use the site for a temporary surface car park. At the

moment, he operates a car park on the land around the building, and on land opposite which used to house the old Palais de Danse dance hall – which has also been demolished. Both buildings played a leading part in the social lives of young people in the 1950s and 1960s.

The architectural style of the Embassy was mimicked by the designers of the call centre built on the old

Brewery site nearby, who chose an art deco theme for that building.

Charles Thorp, of Bridgend Civic Society, said that they had not yet had time to consider the proposals. But he said from a personal point of view he would like to see it saved and brought back into use.

He said: "It is not a beautiful building, but it is a landmark, and I think the council should buy it and transfer the

county library HQ from Coed Parc to it.

"They could then sell Coed Parc and the money from that would pay for The Embassy."

A spokesman for Bridgend County Borough Council confirmed that the building is not listed and it is not in a conservation area.

It is understood that, in the long term, Mr Mathias wishes to develop a hotel on the site.

Troed y Ton closure will still go ahead, says local council

BRIDGEND County Borough Council says it remains committed to developing the Extra Care facility on the site of Troed y Ton residential care home – in spite of being taken to court by some residents.

Two elderly residents at the home, both in their 90s, have launched an

application for a judicial review into the way in which the council handled the consultation process over the decision to close the home in Kenfig Hill.

The case is being heard at the High Court in Cardiff on June 29.

In a statement, the council said that it was responding appropriately to the court application and the council said that the review would determine whether or not the

decision-making process needed to be started again.

The statement went on: "The authority remains committed to the development of the Bridgend County Borough's first Extra Care facility, which will ultimately provide high quality specialist homes for 70 people in 40 units at the purpose-built complex from 2010 onwards.

"However, our priority at this time remains the

13 residents who currently live at Troed y Ton, and who are being carefully supported by individual care plans delivered by trained staff with expertise in managing loss and change.

"The independent advocacy service provided by Age Concern Morgannwg also continues for all residents and their families," the statement concluded.

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Ogmore AM says happy birthday to Diabetes UK

JANICE GREGORY, AM for Ogmore, has joined in Diabetes UK's 75th birthday party at the Senedd with a special healthy eating cake.

Ms Gregory AM said: "I'd like to congratulate Diabetes UK on 75 years of work for people with diabetes. Diabetes affects around 2,700 people in Ogmore and it's vitally important that all people with the condition receive the best care and support to manage it."



ABOVE: Ogmore AM Janice Gregory is supporting Diabetes UK.

Lions thank The GEM...

ON behalf of the president and members of the Lions Club of Bridgend, may I thank you for the publicity that you gave last week to our Twinning presentation to the Wales Air Ambulance.

A number of our members also saw the link to your online news that I passed on.

All have been most complimentary about it, and I agree with them. Well done!

David Jones
(Lions Club of Bridgend)

HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL JULY 02)

The high tides listed in The GEM are those in Barry. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Porthcawl, the high point will be 15-20 minutes earlier.

DATE	Time AM	Ht M	Time PM	Ht M
25 Thur	09.44	14.8	22.02	14.9
26 Fri	10.33	14.6	22.51	14.7
27 Sat	11.19	14.3	23.38	14.5
28 Sun			12.09	13.9
29 Mon	00.25	13.9	12.47	13.4
30 Tues	01.14	13.4	13.36	13.0
01 Wed	01.58	12.9	14.33	12.5
02 Thur	02.54	12.5	15.33	12.3

'Operation Evolution' tackles car parking problem near school

RIGHT:
Back row:
PCSO Amy Baker, Martin Griffiths and PC Jeff Sollis.
Front row:
Daniel Parker, Katie McCann and Lauren Pearson.



POLICE have followed up on a PACT issue in Llangeinor, after community consultation showed that residents were unhappy about illegal parking taking place on Llangeinor Road.

PC Jeff Sollis and PCSO Amy Baker of the Llangeinor and Bettws neighbourhood policing team held 'Operation Evolution' after residents said cars were repeatedly parking on double yellow lines near the speed camera outside Tynnyrheol Primary School as par-

ents dropped off and picked up their children. As a result, school opening and closing times were particularly difficult for motorists and pedestrians using the road.

In response, officers declared the issue a PACT priority and held the operation from 8.30am-9am and 3pm-3.30pm on June 4, 10, and 11.

Officers conducted high visibility patrols and informed parents of safe places to park in the area, and encouragingly, no cars were caught parking

illegally during the course of the operation.

Prior to the targeted patrols, PCSO Amy Baker prepared a letter to be sent to all parents and guardians of pupils at the school, warning them of the parking issue.

She said: "High visibility patrols will continue, however, to maintain the children's safety and to check the problem doesn't start again.

"We will be around to issue tickets if need be."

Bridgend AM's surgeries

CARWYN JONES, Assembly Member for Bridgend, will hold constituency surgeries on Friday, July 3, as follows:

Bryntirion OCLP Club (1.30pm-2.15pm); Laleston, The Oystercatcher (2.30pm-3.15pm); Broadlands, Llangewydd Arms (3.30pm-4pm).

THE COLUMN YOU WRITE

Readers' Letters

We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail. Letters and emails MUST include full address and a contact telephone number. An email address alone is not sufficient. We will (in certain circumstances), protect a writer's identity, if requested. Please keep your letters brief and address them to: The Editor, Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL.

Camper vans issue: no place for party politics

I REFER to the article in The GEM (June 18) and statements made by Coun Gerald Davies, concerning the town council meeting in which he raised the issue of camper vans at Rest Bay.

I think his remarks could be construed as misleading. I understand that Coun Davies put the Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) cabinet report on the agenda as a report of the Rest Bay management committee.

If this is so, I am most concerned that a cabinet report was presented in this way.

I would assume that I am one of the senior councillors he refers to who left the council chamber when he wanted to speak to the cabinet report.

It is quite obvious that he did not want to listen to what was said at the start of the meeting, when councillors declared an interest in any items on the agenda.

I, for one, declared an interest in the item as chairman of the tourist association, and I also made it known that I felt that this cabinet report should not be on the agenda.

When the report came up for discussion and Coun Davies started to speak to the report, I objected, but was told that it would be discussed.

As I am the chairman of the town council planning committee, I felt that if a resolution was passed, it could pre-determine any planning application when it came in.

As for Coun Davies' reference to other councillors who left the room through "inexperience" -

don't forget they have all been councillors for more than a year.

Is he suggesting that they cannot make their own minds up? If so, I feel they would be most offended.

It seems quite ironic that three of the councillors who left the chamber were members of his own party.

Who knows, perhaps they are now realising that party politics should not come into any decisions that could have an effect on planning applications.

I would also question whether, as county borough councillors, he or Coun Norah Clarke should have spoken on the topic, as they declared an interest.

Oh dear, it does appear that Coun Davies might be losing his grip on his Lib-Dem cohorts.

Coun JW Bunker, Newton, Porthcawl.

LOCAL INFORMATION

MADELEINE MOON MP for Bridgend
Westminster office - 02072194417
Constituency office - 47, Noltton Street, Bridgend.
Open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 10am - 12pm. Telephone 01656 750002
HUW IRRANCA-DAVIES MP for Ogmore
Constituency Office 01656 737777
JANICE GREGORY AM for Ogmore
Constituency Office 01656 860034
CARWYN JONES AM for Bridgend
Constituency office 01656 664320
Bethan Jenkins AM for South West Wales
Telephone 01639 643549
BRIDGEND CAB Citizens' Advice Bureau,
Ground Floor, 26 Dunraven Place, Bridgend
CF31 1JD 01656 654951 - Open to personal
callers: Tuesday-Friday 10am-12.30pm or telephone
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COASTGUARD 01792 366534
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ELECTRICITY (power cuts) 0800 0520400
WATER SUPPLY (emergency) 0800 0520130
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National Drugs Helpline 0800 776600
DASH 01656 650686

SSAFA - Forces Help for serving and ex-service men, women and families in need 01656 785435
RAF Association Welfare Officer
01495 249522/01446 740522

SAMARITANS (emotional support) 01656 662333

MENTAL DISTRESS

(Mental Health Matters) 01656 767045

CHILDLINE 0800 1111

NSPCC 0800 800500

RSPCA 0300 123 0744

WOMEN'S AID 01656 766139

Bridgend Carers' Centre 01656 658479

Alzheimer's Society (Bridgend) 01656 651490

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(emergencies out of hours) 01656 663247;

(homelessness) 01656 643542.

EDUCATION 01656 642643

LEISURE AND COMMUNITY

SERVICES 01656 642677

HIGHWAYS (drains, blockages etc) 01656 643421

HIGHWAYS EMERGENCIES

(outside normal working hours) 07831 143600

SOCIAL SERVICES

(general enquiries) 01656 642200

SOCIAL SERVICE EMERGENCIES

(outside normal working hours) 01443 204010

HOSPITALS Princess of Wales Hospital,

Bridgend 01656 752752

Bridgend and District NHS Trust 01656 752752

VOLUNTARY WORK Bridgend Association of

Voluntary Organisations (BAVO) 01656 810400

TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCILS

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Bridgend Town Council 01656 659943

Cefn Cribwr Community Council 01656 741354

Coity Higher Community Council 01656 656358

Cornelly Community Council 07882 044798

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Coychurch Higher Community Council

01656 863418

Coychurch Lower Community Council

01656 647216

Garw Valley Community Council 01656 736751

Laleston Community Council 01656 656506

Llangynwyd Lower Council 01656 728662

Maesteg Town Council 01656 732631

Merthyr Mawr Community Council 01656 670058

Newcastle Higher Community Council 01446

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Ogmore Valley Community Council 01656 849402

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Planners ponder warehouses scheme for Porthcawl

PORHCRAWL Town Council has been told that Bridgend planning officers are investigating the background to a planning application at Moor Lane, Porthcawl.

Coun Norah Clarke told the council that she had been liaising with the planners about what was happening to the site, where an application has been made to build warehouses.

She said that planning consent to develop this site was originally

given back in 1972 by the former Porthcawl UDC and because some top soil had been moved at the time, the planning consent was still valid.

The council heard that BCBC officers are now looking into the terms of the original consent and have asked the landowner to produce documentation to that effect.

The council has decided to wait and see what happens in relation to BCBC investigations.

COMMUNITY COUNCIL NEWS FROM EWENNY AND CORNTOWN

Plan to cut speeding

EWENNY Community Council meets on the second Wednesday of every month in the Ewenny Community Village Hall at 7pm.

At the last meeting, the following items of interest were discussed:

SPEED CHECKS

We are lucky to have our local police officers attend each meeting to update us on police issues.

Speeding traffic remains a top priority, with a number of camera checks taking place over recent months.

At least, the speed activated signs are working now, even if they are still ignored... Drivers, please

remember that we have a 30 mph limit! The police are also hoping to hold a PACT meeting to improve liaison and discussion in the near future.

VILLAGE MAINTENANCE

The council arranges for mowing and maintenance of a number of verges and grass areas around the village, including around the Corntown Baptistal Pool and the War Memorial on Wick Road.

With the help of students from Port Talbot, some planting has been undertaken near to the Baptistal pool to go with the newly erected sign about the pool.

This is now a very pleasant place to sit.

PLAYGROUND

Wick Road playground is managed by the Vale Council, but it

needs upgrading.

We are working with the council to plan a design and seek funding. This will be a large project to ensure the area is accessible and an exciting place for our young people.

FOOTPATH

We are working with Bridgend CBC to improve the bridges on the footpath across Ewenny Moors to Heronston Lane, and to re-set the stepping stones.

The possibility of a better path alongside is being considered.

VILLAGE HALL

The community council runs this vital local facility. Following a close inspection, various works of repair and improvement are being planned.

COUN ALEX GLANVILLE
(Ewenny Community Council)

Cycling strategy to get cars off the road

THE Bridgend County Borough Council has adopted a new walking and cycling strategy aimed at encouraging larger numbers of people to ditch their cars.

The strategy identifies new routes to be used for either cycling or walking and will cater for residents of the borough, as well as tourists and visitors.

Bridgend county borough is also linking up its routes with those in neighbouring authorities, so that Bridgend will be connected to walking and cycling routes to both east and west.

Community routes are to be provided linking a number of places - including Caerau with Bynnenyn; Brynmenyn to Bridgend; Brynmenyn with Blaengarw and Nantymoel and also across to Kenfig.

Cycle routes will be established from Bridgend to Pencoed, Porthcawl and the Vale.

Other issues covered in the strategy include the need for these routes to be properly signposted and publicised and for parking provision for bikes in towns and villages.

Children's choir

MAESTEG

Children's Choir will be holding its annual concert at Maesteg town hall on Friday, July 10.

Entitled 'Fun, Fame and Fortune,' it will be organised by the choir's musical director Enid-Sian Hughes with accompanist Ryan Wood.

It will again be composed by Tony Mullins and is due to start at 7pm. Tickets can be obtained on 01656 734198, or 01656 732385.

Forces' flag

THE management committee of Sarn and Bryncethin Community Association have agreed to fly the special flag which honours Armed Forces Day.

The flag will be raised at 7pm on Friday (June 26) so that it will be in place on June 27. Everyone is welcome to attend this flag-raising ceremony.

Aberkenfig Square

I RECENTLY had a chat with Coun Derrick Baker, who explained the Newcastle Higher Community Council proposal for modifying Aberkenfig Square, which at the moment is just an untidy patch of grass with a couple of bench seats.

It is proposed to have large natural stone slabs paving through part of the area, with an ornamental shrub garden on the left hand side adjacent to the pavement; and semi-circular raised flower bed adjacent to the shop premises side wall at the rear, with free standing curved seating to the sides of this raised bed.

To the left hand side of this raised bed, along the shop premises side wall, there are to be four panels which contain mosaics designed by local pupils.

On the right hand side of this paved area, there is to be a covered area so that youngsters can chat to each other under cover when it is raining.

At present, there is an exhibition at Aberkenfig library showing artists

NORTH BRIDGEND NEWS

A message for all readers in the north of Bridgend who would like to have items included in the community news columns of The GEM:

If you wish to submit reports on any social activity in this region, please contact me. I am very approachable and will endeavour to include every newsworthy subject.

Contact details: **CLIVE MITCHELL**

1 Tyn-Y-Coed Close, Sarn, Bridgend CF32 9NQ

TEL: 01656 725399

email: tynyncoed1@yahoo.co.uk



impressions and pictures of the proposals.

If any resident requires more information or would like to discuss these proposals they can do so by telephoning Coun Byron Jones (01656 725041), Coun Derrick Baker (01656 724000), or Coun Gary Haines (01656 728662) or the Clerk to the Council, John Richfield (01446 750663).

Brass concert

THERE is to be a special concert commemorating the life of Alan Johns, who died in 2008 aged 70.

Alan dedicated his life to music and championship bands throughout south Wales.

He was born in Nantymoel and grew up in the Ogmere Valley. He started to learn an instrument at the age of six, and joined the Ogmere Valley silver band in 1947.

In 1954, he joined the Royal Navy, in which he served until 1969.

He was an accomplished musician and played the flugelhorn, cornet and the trumpet. On leaving the Navy, he played for the Mid-Rhondda, BSC Port Talbot, Ammanford, Rogerstone, and Rhondda big bands.

He was cornet soloist in 1986 when he played the Three Inventions at Ammanford, and Metropolis at Treorchy. He competed with the Mid-Rhondda band at the National Finals in the Royal Albert Hall in 1991.

In 2001, he was a member of the Ammanford band that won the national second section finals in Preston. He returned to play with the Ogmere Valley silver band in 2006.

Alan used to correspond regularly with me, providing information for this column on the

social side of the Ogmere Valley silver band.

The concert will take place at the Tabernacle Church, Derwen Road, Bridgend on July 11, at 7pm. Tickets can be obtained on 01656 656351 and cost £5. All proceeds go to Velindre Cancer Centre.

Community centre

THERE is a summer concert at the Brackla centre by the Brackla Community Chorus, with Tremains Junior School choir as a guest choir, on July 10, at 7.15pm.

Tickets will be available from chorus members or at the door, at a cost of £3.

Summer fete

ON Saturday, June 27, there is a fete at Sarn Community Centre at 11am, organised by the parish of Llansantffraid, Bettws and Aberkenfig.

Down Under

CHRIS ELLIS recently gave a talk at the Llangarw Mother's Union meeting on her recent holiday in Australia accompanied by a photographic slide show.

Chris was impressed by certain members of Llangarw Mother's Union who volunteer at Parc prison and their experiences with the inmates.

Curtain raiser

MR Martin Griffiths was full of praise for the players of the Celtic Crusaders who visited Tynrhyl Primary School, Llangarw, to demonstrate their playing skills in rugby league.

The pupils later played in a tag rugby festival as a curtain raiser at the Brewery Field, before the Celtic Crusaders and Wigan

rugby league game.

Crusaders had their second win of the season over one of the great league teams. Mr Griffiths was proud of two of his staff, Mrs Grabham and Mrs Golding, for the input they put into the coaching and supervising of the pupils.

He would also like to thank the members of the PTFA who helped with providing refreshments at the recent sports day.

The school would appreciate the help of volunteers and donation of gifts for the fete on July 4. Last year the school fete achieved a record donation towards its funds. Telephone 01656 870245 if you can help.

Animal clinic

THE People's Dispensary for Sick Animals will have facilities available to treat sick animals on Wednesday, July 1, on the Tudor Estate, Caerau (it will be located on the car park opposite number 81), Thursday, July 2, at Oakwood Estate, Maesteg.

The treatment of sick dogs will be free, but there will be a small charge for other animals.

Communities First

THERE is to be a disco for children at Bryncethin Memorial Hall on Thursday, July 2, between 7pm-9pm, organised by Communities First.

Sweets, crisps and soft drinks available for sale inside.

Entry is payable at the door and is £1. For further information, contact Phil on 01656 815139.

Farewell to a grand old lady

PORHCRAWL NEWTON WI

AT the June meeting in Newton schoolroom there was some very sad news of the death of Edie Strike, who had been a member of the Porthcawl Newton WI for many years.

She had been very active in the choir and drama group and had even attended the last Pancake Day coffee morning at the grand old age of 94.

Her funeral took place on Monday, June 8, where a full church of many of her friends and loved ones said their farewells to a grand old lady.

The summer tea held on June 10, in the schoolroom was again a great success, both in numbers and in the quality of the repast!

On Friday (June 26) Kenfig WI will be holding their cream tea in Cornelly Community Hall, at 3.15pm, and they have sent us an invitation.

The speaker this month was Mr Ian Hutton, who unfolded for members the history of our much-loved harvest festival.

The competition was for the best rose.

Members are working very hard on their entries for The Glamorgan WI Show, to be held in Cornelly Community Hall, on Saturday, August 29.

It's open to the public from 10am-6pm.

Members and the public are being urged to support this new venue. Entry is £2 per person and refreshments will be on sale.

For information regarding the show, contact Judy on 01656 785477.

For any other queries concerning joining the WI, telephone Pearl on 01656 782556.

Foster families: enquiries rocket

ENQUIRIES from prospective foster carers have "rocketed by over 200 per cent" - following Foster Care fortnight in Bridgend county borough.

A council spokeswoman reported that with over 100 children in foster care in the borough, there is always a need for more carers to provide safe and caring homes while the children are unable to live with their own families.

Coun Alana Davies, cabinet member for children and young people, said: "Becoming a foster carer is a big decision, and people need to know what they can expect and what support is available to them."

The Bridgend foster care team organises regular meet and greet sessions in the borough to allow people to drop in for a no-obligation chat with social workers and current foster carers.

Coun Davies continued: "Foster carers have a vital role to play in giving children in care the

support they need to help them reach their full potential. Events like Foster Care Fortnight are a great way to raise awareness of the issue and the need for more carers to come forward."

One couple already providing foster care are Anita and Spencer Bowring, of Sarn.

They currently care for a 14-year-old boy, and say that the most important qualities are patience, understanding and a sense of humour.

Anita said: "Fostering can be hard work, but it is incredibly rewarding. "We thought long and hard about committing ourselves to becoming foster carers - but, now that we have made that step, I consider it one of the best decisions I have ever made."

"The fact that we can help to make a real, positive difference to a child's life is an incredible feeling."

"I would encourage anyone considering it to get in touch with the fostering team at Bridgend County Borough Council - if only to get a bit more information."

Jewish customs are explained by guest speaker

MYNYDD CYNFFIG WI

ON June 9, members were treated to a very amusing and informative talk by Mrs Norma Glass.

She explained the difference between the sects within the Jewish faith and described the ceremonies of weddings and burials and the significance of items of clothing worn by Jewish men.

The members enjoyed her talk so much that we all hope that Mrs Glass will make a return visit.

The interest groups will next meet on June 30, at 2.30pm in the vestry of Pisgah Chapel.

The next full meeting will be held on July 14, when the Rev Richard Spencer will speak on 'My Prison Experience'.

As usual, potential members are always welcome and they should contact Mrs Maureen Crew on 01656 749070.

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Rebecca looks back on 100 years of memories

REPORT by PHILIP IRWIN

A BRIDGEND woman who was born in Llanblethian 100 years ago, recently celebrated with the traditional card from The Queen – and a surprise visit from a famous family.

Rebecca Jenkins was born in Greenfield Terrace, Llanblethian, one of 13 children, although two died quite young. Many of her brothers and sisters have stayed in the area, leaving her with many ties to the area.

However, Rebecca when she was just 17, she went into service, initially in London, but later with the Llewellyn family in Abergavenny.

Sir Harry Llewellyn, Olympic gold medal showjumper with Foxhunter in Helsinki in 1952, was the head of the family, and Rebecca became nanny to his children, including his sons, Dai and Roddy.

In fact, on the afternoon of her birthday, there was a surprise visitor for Rebecca – Roddy Llewellyn himself,

together with other family members who had been nannied by her, and some of their children.

It was only two years ago that Rebecca moved into Heathfields Residential Home in Bridgend. When she retired from nannying, she lived once again in Llanblethian, staying at her home until she was 98.

The GEM visited Rebecca on the morning of her 100th birthday, when she was with her niece, Anne Clark, and her younger brother, Bert, who is a mere 91.

Anne and Bert both live in Porthcawl and pop in to see Rebecca regularly. Anne told the GEM: "She was always very independent, and she is still bright and alert in the home."

Bert and his family lived in Aberthorn, and he worked in the Post Office in Eastgate, Cowbridge, for many years, before he moved to Porthcawl.

Some years ago, when she was still living in Llanblethian, Rebecca was interviewed by the late Jeff Alden of the Cowbridge Record Society for one of its



books (*Cowbridge and District Remembered, 1900 - 1950*).

In that book, she recalled her life as a nanny for a series of prominent Vale families, as well as for the Llewellyns. In her time, she had been in service in Llandough Castle and Penllyn Castle.

Her father Thomas W. Jenkins, worked in the Verlands for the John family, and later took a post as head groom with the Glamorgan Hunt.

The day before, she had a surprise visit from the Mayor of Cowbridge with Llanblethian, Coun Jon Harris, who told the GEM: "She was a well-known Cowbridge citizen, so I took a birthday card on behalf of the people of Cowbridge."

"Her brother used to be the mace bearer with the town council."

ABOVE: A young Rebecca with her father, Thomas W. Jenkins, in Llanblethian. BELOW: Rebecca with her card from the Queen.



ABOVE: Rebecca Jenkins with niece Anne Clark and brother Bert. (Photographs by Mandy Thomas).



ABOVE: Five of the Jenkins children (clockwise from left): Peggy, Rebecca, Dora, Tom, Bert.

Anysha's looking forward to Miss Teen Queen final

PORHCAWL pupil Anysha Panesar is to represent Wales in the final of Miss Teen Queen UK 2009.

Anysha, a pupil at St Clare's School, Porthcawl, won an online poll to take her through to the final which will be held in August.

She told The GEM: "It is great to be the first Welsh finalist – now I've got to start preparing for the big day up in London on August 13."

Anysha, who lives in Llangan, polled a total of

3,356 votes and was 337 votes ahead of the second placed girl.

She was originally scouted for the competition when she was on a school trip to the 'Clothes Show Live' at the NEC earlier this year.

In the final, Anysha will have to turn on the style in a walk down the catwalk, and show her confidence by answering questions prepared by a panel of judges.

Her pink evening gown for the final has been specially made for her by designer Carry O'Neal at Regalia, in

Orlando, America. Carry and his partner David dress Miss USA, Miss Teen USA and most of the state queens too.

Although Anysha found fame on the popular MTV show *My Super Sweet 16*, which films amazing parties across the country, her main interests are outdoor activities, such as motorbike riding and horse riding.

Last year, she even competed at the Horse of the Year Show, on her pony – Sannan Valley Supreme.



Anysha is the first Welsh girl to qualify for the Miss Teen Queen UK final.

Bridgend Male Choir tunes up for a full summer programme

Congratulations have been showered on Ifor Lewis and helpers, for organising a splendid outdoor festival of choral music at Coity Castle.

Bridgend Male Choir thoroughly enjoyed its participation and looks forward to returning in future years.

Audience attendance levels were the best yet, which can only be good news for the beneficiaries, Bridgend Carers Group.

The choir's next engagement is taking place today (June 25) at the private Cardiff University international conference of manufacturing engineers dinner in the elegant surroundings of the National Museum of Wales at Cathays Park on Thursday, June 25. On Sunday (June 28) a number of choristers will be joining the congregation for an S4C recording, Dechrau Canu, Dechrau Canmol at Cardiff Bay.

Next up is supporting another excellent annual event which grows in popularity each year: the Stepping Stones charity for lung cancer research is the beneficiary for what is locally known as Mair's charity walk on Sunday, July 5.

Many people will raise sponsorship walking from Newbridge Fields to Ogmere Village. A number of choristers are join-

ing in the walk, hopefully saving some energy for the post walk vocal entertainment.

There will be a military presence at the Bridgend choir's final July public performance on July 17. In what has become an excellent association between the choir and the band of the Corps of Royal Engineers, both will join

up again, this time at Haberdashers School, Monmouth.

Another worthy charity will benefit from this performance, the Army Benevolent Fund. The association goes back many years, but this is the first joint venture since Col Andrew Tuggay became a welcome vice president of the choir.

The remainder of June

and July is taken up with attendance at three weddings, two of which are for choristers' children.

Choristers are delighted to join the celebrations for the families of Dave Davison and Phil Edwards.

For all details of Choir engagements, visit its website www.bridgendmalechoir.co.uk.

The Rest Bay Lifeguards take part in competition

REST BAY Lifeguard club recently competed in an IRB (Inshore Rescue Boat) competition in Scharbeutz, Germany.

Teams competed from all over Europe and Rest Bay were part of a Welsh team.

Overall, the club finished in an excellent 12th place – making one final and a semi-final in another event. The trip was an excellent outing with the club meeting new friends in the Surf Lifesaving world.

The team from Rest Bay consisted of Chris Black, Gareth Davies, Richard Castle, Andrew Morgan, Andrew

Murphy and Gwyn 'King Julian' Jones.

A spokesman said the club would also like to thank their sponsors for this event – The Seagull Inn, Nottage, Hi Tide Inn, Porthcawl and Mark Scorfild.

The club is hoping to return to Germany in 2010 to compete in the IRB championships.



ABOVE: The Rest Bay Lifeguard team.

'Name three urgent traffic schemes' councillors urged

EVERY councillor on Bridgend County Borough Council is to be asked to submit the three most pressing schemes for road safety or traffic management measures within their area.

The cabinet has accepted a report outlining how the council prioritises spending on road traffic matters in the borough.

Until now, it has given priority to areas which have suffered accidents, with the aim of reducing incidents and casualties.

But officers are aware that residents have concerns in other areas where there are large number of children or older people in residence, for example.

Councillors will now come back with their top three priorities which officers will then assess. There is already a list of 300 schemes waiting for funding within the borough.

The object is to create a comprehensive list of schemes ranked in order of priority which will be tackled with whatever funding is available.

The cabinet has agreed to change the council's policy and

allow schemes to be submitted for consideration other than where accident statistics suggest.

PRIORITY LIST
THE top schemes on the prioritised list held by the council at present are:

The monument at Pencoeed, A48 junction with Heol Mostyn at the Garden Centre, Pyle. Junction of Cowbridge Road, Ewenny Road and Nolton Street, Bridgend. Junction of Tremains Road and Coity Road,

Bridgend, at the gyratory system, Duffryn Road, Caerau, from the junction of Woodlands Terrace to the war memorial at Caerau square. Junction of Coychurch Road and Heol Simonston by Singleton's. Junction of John Street and Lias Road, Porthcawl. The Aberkenfig roundabout. Junction of Park Street and Glyn y Parc, Bridgend. Junction of Heol Fach and Heol Llan, North Cornelly.

Work to Newton Nottage Road, Porthcawl, near lake. Junction of Coychurch Road and East Street, into Bridgend Industrial estate. Cowbridge Road access into Bridgend Industrial estate. Redhill roundabout. Junction of Nolton Street and Edward Street. Junction of Maesteg Road and Mill Street (Goggy's Hill), Cwmfelin. The junction at Heol Pantyravel at Pantyravel.

WHO WANTS TO BUILD WHAT AND WHERE?

Poundland Ltd. 32-34 Adare Street, Bridgend – two illuminated fascia signs and one illuminated projecting sign.
Mr A Kidger, 11 High Street, Maesteg – two-storey extension to rear porch extension to front and raise roof level.
Mr M Oram, 11 Penybont Road, Pencoeed – change of use from A1 to A3 (coffee shop and café).
Mr L Morris, Bayside Guest House, 70 Guestworth Road, Porthcawl – change of use to B&B.
Mr M Prosser, 12 Oaklands Road,

Bridgend – ground floor extension to rear.
Mr A Jones, 11 Greenfields Avenue, Bridgend – single storey extension to rear of dwelling.
Mrs C Cutter, 6 Heather Close, Sarn – single storey rear extension and front porch.
Mr B Roche, 8 Caebryn Terrace, Tondur – rear single storey extension.
Anchorhill Homes Ltd. land at Duffryn Oaks (phase 3) Pencoeed – replacement plot for 13A, affecting footpath 5 Pencoeed.
BCBC Childrens Directorate, Bryntirion

Comprehensive School, Merlin Crescent, Bridgend – boiler replacement to include the erection of new flue.
Pencoeed Comprehensive School, Coychurch Road Pencoeed – installation of new fuel hopper in existing boiler house with new vent on roof.
Mr R Bevan, 65 Parkfields Road, Bridgend – two-storey side extension and rear dormer to existing semi-detached house.
Mr K Lewis, 29 Hall Drive, North Cornelly – new dormer extensions.

Charity helps pupils start the day in the right way...

A LOCAL primary school has received a cheque for £600 to improve its 'Early Bird Breakfast' club.

The 'Foresters' Fund for Children came to the rescue at Heol-y-Cyw Primary School, after headteacher Lynne Bowen-Jones made an approach.

She told The GEM: "We needed to maintain this facility – not just for the children, but for the parents as

well. A number of them have to leave for work between 7.45am – 8.30am."

She continued: "The Foresters' Fund for Children looked very kindly upon us and visited us to present a cheque for £600, which would help us to buy the equipment we required – and a lot more!"

Apart from the obvious breakfast items: New plastic plates, bowls and cutlery (£40); new microwave

(£50); toaster (£20) and table cloths (£50), the charity supplied goods to keep the early birds occupied.

They received a Nintendo Wii package and games (£300) – to develop the children's physical co-ordination, thinking skills, mental calculations, and social skills.

There was also a Wii 'Fit Board' (£80) to help to develop 'balance' and body co-ordination skills. More traditionally, there

were games and jigsaws worth £50.

Mrs Bowen-Jones said: "We are seeking to enrol new pupils for September, who would receive a very warm welcome into our little school.

"With relatively low numbers in each year group, pupils receive individual attention and individual learning approaches. We have a selection of after school clubs, which are rotated each half term.

"Our school grounds are a delight for pupils to play and learn in, and, we have received several prestigious accolades for our sustainability policy and for our work as a healthy school."

She added: "Next year will be an exciting one for the children.

The year-6 children will be travelling to France to try out their French language skills.

"Also, we have just returned from a visit to our Comenius project partner schools in Spain, where they held their annual festival, and we have lots of ideas for our own festival in Heol-y-Cyw, in either spring or summer."

Heol-y-Cyw pupils board walking bus



THE HEOL-Y-CYW WALKING BUS IN FULL STRIDE.

ON June 17, classes 2 & 3 at Heol-y-Cyw Primary School took part in the record breaking walking bus, organised by Brake the road safety charity.

All children and staff got into their visor vests and lined up in pairs holding hands at 9.58am.

Mrs Neil counted down to 10am and shouted 'Let's Walk' and everyone set off accompanied by

Coun Carol Davies, a governor at the school.

In addition PC Darryl Hanks, also a school governor, was present to witness the event.

A donation was sent to Brake to support their work in trying to prevent child pedestrian deaths by helping to teach vital road safety lessons to chil-

dren. Every child who took part received a certificate and the chance to have their name in the Guinness Book of Records.



ABOVE: Tom Ball of the Foresters Fund with pupils and headteacher, Lynne Bowen-Jones.

Talk on dogs for the deaf greatly enjoyed

AT the June meeting of Porthcawl Townswomen's Guild, chairman Mrs Freda Rodger welcomed president Mrs Joyce Whiteing and guests, and the literary, bowls, walk and lunch groups gave their reports.

Four members are going to the NCM in Birmingham at the end of June. Mrs Beryl Jones,

who is our voting delegate, spoke to the meeting about the motion.

The speaker Mrs Marilyn Sydenham then spoke to us on hearing dogs for the deaf and a short film was shown on how the dogs were trained for the individual owner.

Most breeds of dogs are used and supplied from rescue centres and to see them in their home with the owner was wonderful as they respond to

the telephone, door bells and smoke alarms.

Mrs Beryl Davies gave a vote of thanks to Marilyn.

A donation from the Guild of £50 was presented, and an additional collection from the floor raised over £45 extra.

Mrs Rita Price is talking about Amber at the next meeting on Wednesday, July 8, in the All Saints Church hall, Victoria Avenue, at 2pm. DR

NEWS IN AND OUT OF CLASS AT LITCHARD JUNIOR SCHOOL

MINI-BEAST MAGIC
THIS term, year-3 have been studying mini-beasts as their topic and recently visited the forestry centre on the Rockwool grounds.

The children were able to take part in a mini-beast hunt, make animal shelters, join in a blind folded follow the rope trail and even had to pretend to be ants finding their own scent!

They also made cookie wood necklaces and worked in Rockwool's new centre that has recently been built by volunteers.

A fantastic time was had by all the children and year-3 would like to thank Karen for all her help and look forward to a return visit next year.

YEAR-5 VISIT
AS part of the year-5 local history study, the children visited Parc Slip Nature Reserve and were given a guided history tour.

They also visited a nearby street where several of the minis once lived.

The children enjoyed pond dipping and the guided nature walks.

STREET DANCE
ON June 15, the children of year-6 had a break dancing workshop with expert 'Street Dance' teacher Bethan Turner.

It was also a chance for the dance groups that are performing in the end of year talent show to get some help and advice on their performance.

The children performed the dance specially choreographed for them in front of the school.

"It was class!" said James Thomas.

"It was epic!" added Callum Baker.

WILLOW WEAVING
AS part of our Arts and Sports Fortnight, the children from year-3 took part in a willow weaving workshop.

Working in two groups, they constructed a large squirrel 'Wil Wiwer', the children thoroughly enjoyed the workshop and Wil at the moment is sited on the school field.

KINETIC THEATRE
THE Kinetic Theatre visited the school last week with their production of *The Hospital Force*.

The whole school had the opportunity to watch this extremely funny and educational show, which had a science theme all about forces.

FRENCH EVENING
ON Wednesday, June 17, an evening with a French flavour was held at school. The hall was packed, and everyone enjoyed the cheese and wine, together with the bingo – in French of course!

This was followed by a quiz with prizes for the winning teams. The money raised will go towards subsidising some of the cost of next year's trip.

The DVD is available at £5 and there are some photos which can be bought at 50p each (see Mrs Stephens).

A big thank you to all those who supported the evening, and to the staff who helped make it possible. *Merci beaucoup!* – Mrs Stephens.

HINDU TEMPLE
THE children of year-4 visited a Hindu temple in Cardiff.

They experienced Hindu meditation and listened to stories about various Hindu deities.

Fortunately, the weather was kind to us and we ate our lunch in Roath Park. A good day was had by all.

ROAD SAFETY QUIZ

THE Road Safety quiz team took part in the finals of the quiz run by South Wales Police at the Odeon Cinema on June 12.

They finished third, only two points behind the winners! This was the first time that the school has reached the final stages of the quiz, so it was an excellent performance.

Taking part were: Harvey Jones, Daniel Jenkins, Rhianon Howe and Owen Rees.

As a result of reaching the final, the team are invited to a special film screening at the cinema.

AEROBIC SUCCESS
CONGRATULATIONS to our three aerobic gymnasts who competed at the Welsh Aerobic Championships at Sophia Gardens, dazzling the judges, and bringing back a total of seven medals!

Great Britain squad member, Ellie Butcher (5S) won a silver medal in the Welsh closed competition in the under-12s FIG category, and came sixth place in the open category with her super routine.

Ellie also won gold medals in both the open and closed categories for her part in a trio routine.

Jessica Burton (6S) won gold medals in both the open and closed categories of the

under-12s NAC category, making her Welsh NAC national development champion for the second year running!

The competition couldn't have been closer as just 0.1 of a point behind Jessica, Abbie Davies (5S) won the silver medal in both open and closed categories.

All three girls performed their routines brilliantly and compete for Bridgend club Aero-Gym. They are already training for the next competition in September. Well done, girls!

TALENTED MUSICIANS

Congratulations to our talented musicians from year-5 Ella Edwards, Rhianon Howe, Laura Johnstone 5C, Gemma Young 5M and Beth Keagle 5S, who have all joined the Bridgend Youth Orchestra.

The girls all recently took part in their first concert as part of the orchestra.

FOOTBALL NEWS
PEN-Y-FAI under-9s football team played at Bryntirion. William Prosser and Jack Bogue both from 4F, played in six matches.

Their team didn't have a goal scored against them!

The scores were 2-0, 6-0, 2-0, 0-0 and 1-0. *Fantastic results – well done, boys!*

CAN YOU HELP?

DOES anyone have a large gazebo that the school could borrow for additional sun protection during outdoor activities for the children?

Condolences

WE would like to send our condolences to Mr Funnell and his family on their recent sad loss.

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'MEET YOUR LOCAL BOBBY AT THE SOUTH WALES POLICE OPEN DAY!'

Photos by MANDY THOMAS
(Available for purchase,
telephone 07974 518347)
www.mandythomasphotography.co.uk

SOUTH Wales Police staged their annual open day last Sunday (June 21) at Waterton Cross.

For the visitors, there was an assortment of stalls and exhibitions including the Force museum, community safety, a display of South Wales Police dogs, belly dancing, face painting, bouncy castles and lots of food and drink stalls.

The South Wales Police band played, and car enthusiasts were able to see classic police and military vehicles.

Once again, the Global Village was a main feature, with displays highlighting cuisine, music, dancing, arts and crafts from a variety of cultures.

Entrance, as usual, was free but money raised from donations will go to the South Wales Police Youth Trust Charity.

A police spokeswoman said: "This charity aims to prevent the criminalisation of children and young people in south Wales by supporting worthwhile community projects by providing them with the funding to make a real difference to young lives."

The event co-ordinator, Chief Inspector Phil Ashby said: "The Police Communities Open Day is a fantastic way for members of every community to informally meet their local police officers and find out a little more about the work they carry out".

During the day, there were performances by Thai dancers, Habibi belly dancing, African drumming, and Irish, Bollywood, and Bangra dancing.

In the main arena, the police dogs put on an exhibition of their canine skills, and there was also a demonstration by the SWP Armed Response Unit.



College photography students put on their year-end show...



ABOVE: Ouch...Gemma Halliday's model demonstrates how to clear out at the rack!



ABOVE: Chocolate heaven from Gemma Halliday.



LEFT: A Gothic theme from Jayne Richards.

Photos by MANDY THOMAS
(Available for purchase,
telephone 07974 518347)
www.mandythomasphotography.co.uk

STUDENTS at Bridgend College recently put on their first graduate show at The Queens Road Campus in Bridgend Industrial Estate.

Successful graduates receive a BA (Hons) in photographic practice after completing the three-year course.

Impressed GEM photographer Mandy Thomas reported: "There was some fantastic photography on show."

RIGHT: Left to right: Jayne Richards, Gemma Halliday, Richard Rees (seated), Carmen Budrat (seated), Karen James, Darren Tilley and Geoff Matthews.



ABOVE: Carmen Budrat with some of her portraits.

LEFT: Darren Tilley - clearly going for the 1970s record sleeve market.



LEFT: Geoff Matthews with a landscape.

New president at Inner Wheel

INNER Wheel Club of Porthcawl held a handover tea on June 17 when president Branwen Rees handed over the chain of office to Mrs Gil Edwards, who then installed Mrs Sheila Burge as the new vice president.

The new committee for 2009-2010 are: president Mrs Gil Edwards; vice president Mrs Sheila Burge; junior vice Mrs Elizabeth Jones; secretary Mrs Ireen Williams; treasurer Mrs Lios Rees; overseas Mrs Monica Balkwill.

Club correspondent Mrs Dee Richardson (plus seven members of the club).

The next meeting is in July. We do not meet during August.

September will see us back and organising an interclub when Mr Mike Boyles will entertain us.

Mrs Gill Edwards received the chain of office from Branwen Rees.

DEE RICHARDSON



Mrs Gill Edwards receiving the chain of office from Branwen Rees

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Bridgend officer is honoured by St John

A SENIOR Bridgend police officer was among those invested as members of the Order of St John at a special ceremony, in Llandaff Cathedral on Saturday (June 20).

Chief Inspector Stuart Parfitt has been involved with St John Wales for many years. Due to his special responsibility for royal protection in the South Wales Police, he assists in ensuring the efficient running of royal visits for the charity's Commandant-in-Chief, The Duchess of Gloucester.

More than 20 St John Ambulance in Wales volunteers were honoured, along with dignitaries who have made an outstanding contribution to the organisation. They were presented with their insignia by the Prior for Wales of the Order of St John, Mr D Hugh Thomas.

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Porthcawl band was so close to that big break



ABOVE:

Porthcawl band Proteen were so close to finally hitting the big time.

by PHILIP IRWIN

A 50-something rock band from Porthcawl has just missed out on one last shot at glory – a phoenix-like resurrection that could have seen them opening the show for Neil Young at Hyde Park this weekend!

'Proteen' – who broke up back in 1982 – made it to the finals of Absolute Radio's competition, 'One Last Dream'.

The truly tempting prize was a recording session in the legendary Abbey Road studios, a gig at London's Hard Rock Cafe, and that 20-minute spot on the bill with Neil Young!

Formed back in 1979, with three members from Kenfig Hill and two from Cwmavon

and Pontrydyfen, 'Proteen' made a big impact on the club, pub and university scene in south Wales.

At the time, they were: Dale Williams, (lead guitar, vocals) Jeff Williams (drums) Phil Jones (keyboards, backing vocals), Mark Davies (bass) and Claire Phillips (vocals).

They wrote their own songs, but also used Claire's voice to give the band a 'Stevie Nicks' sound.

They found plenty of work but all had 'day jobs' and gradually, after failing to make it big, they broke up.

There may even have been a little bit of musical differences there too, as the cliché goes.

Jeff and Dale continued to play at the local pub on a Friday night, Phil became an engineer, and the other band

members drifted apart.

It was only when they heard about the Absolute Radio competition that they arranged to get back together and send in some songs.

The original bassist, Mark, was the only member not involved, and a replacement, Daz Joseph came on board and the group found that they had made the final three on the competition.

From then, it was down to listeners' votes, and Proteen unfortunately lost out to a London-based group.

Afterwards, Jeff Williams told The GEM: "To be honest, we were a little relieved. We are all in our 50s and all have lives and work to consider."

"It would have been difficult to drop everything and shoot up to

London to record at Abbey Road, and play in the Hard Rock Cafe and at Hyde Park."

Mind you, it sounds like too good a deal to turn down.

So, will the band's brush with fame and fortune inspire the group to get back together?

Will aging Stevie Nicks fans (such as this reporter) get to hear how close Claire is to her unique vocal style?

Jeff has promised to let us know if they do.

Fatal crash: Police appeal

POLICE are calling for witnesses to a fatal crash at Bridgend Road, Llangynwyd at approximately 3.40am on Monday, June 22.

It involved a dark colour Suzuki Bandit motorcycle which had been travelling from Llangynwyd in the direction of Bridgend. The rider of the motorcycle, a 35-year-old local man, sustained fatal injuries.

Anyone who witnessed the collision or has information is asked to contact the road policing unit on 01656 869332 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

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COUNCILS LAY DOWN SWINE FLU CONTINGENCY PLAN

'Potential for significant increase in deaths if pandemic strikes' – warning

A CONTINGENCY plan has been drawn up to cope with increased deaths from the Swine Flu Pandemic.

The plan, which considers all levels of threat, including a 'worst case scenario', applies to the way in which Coychurch Crematorium will operate and also takes increased demand for burials into account.

The crematorium is jointly operated by Bridgend, Rhondda Cynon Taff and Vale councils.

A report to the management committee revealed that an exercise was carried out in April at the time of the outbreak of the flu in Mexico.

All councils in Wales took part in this exercise which was to see how the effects of a pandemic can be mitigated.

Although the current outbreak appears to be less virulent than first expected, the report warns that there is potential for a 'significant increase' in deaths.

The report states that if there is a big additional demand for cremation, Bridgend and Vale Councils may have to set up a body-holding area near to the crematorium.

The management committee may also have to increase cremations to 315 a week, extend the days and hours of operation at the crematorium, reduce the amount of time available for services, and suspend other administrative work until the emergency has ended.

The report says that if the crematorium starts to get towards its maximum capacity, cremations from outside the areas of the three councils will be stopped to allow preference to residents within the three areas.

The report says that figures were produced by central government at the time of Avian Flu and it was estimated that out of a population of 132,400 in Bridgend, there would be 2,122 deaths over a 15-week period, including normal deaths.

The estimated peak would be 388 deaths in week six, based on a fatality rate of 2.5 per cent and an attack rate of 50 per cent.

But swine flu appears to be less deadly, so these figures may be reduced.

The National Public Health Service for Wales will be in charge of any pandemic and local hospitals will only be able to admit patients with added complications from the flu virus. The plan assumes that some people will die at home from the disease.

At the moment, there are up to 10 cremations a day, with 30-minute services.

If a pandemic scenario increases the demand to 15 cremations a day in a five-day week, the standby cremator would have to be used on top of the two main ones.

Alternatively, the crematorium would have to operate two seven hour shifts from 8am-3pm and from 3pm-10pm.

If there was a need to have a seven-day working week, a maxi-

mum of 315 cremations could take place in a week. Extra external lighting may be required for the car parks at night.

If staff themselves fall ill during the outbreak, the organist would work in the office, with staff from other council departments drafted in to answer phones and type basic information into the computers.

Cleaning staff may also be deployed from outside to clean the chapel and toilets to release crematorium staff for other work.

The report also looks at burials within Bridgend and says that if there was a significant increase in demand for burials, they would be restricted to four cemeteries – Maesteg, Sarn, Laleston and Pencoe.

There may be further restrictions, including a refusal to re-open existing graves, as some of these have to be hand excavated and also a refusal for three depth graves because of the extra time involved.

The four cemeteries could accommodate up to 60 burials a week but if extra labour was brought in to extend working hours, there could be 110 burials a week. Extra equipment may have to be hired and external contractors brought to help.

Additional telephone numbers may be brought into use for burial and cremation services to cope with the demand.

Maesteg's Bryneithin Home is set to close after 35 years

BRIDGEND County Borough Council is to close Bryneithin in Maesteg.

The home, which caters for people with a learning disability, has 14 residents who are being transferred into smaller units, along with the staff who will care for them.

Bridgend's cabinet has approved the recommendation to close the home once alternative accommodation has been provided. No decision has been made about what will happen to the site in Crown Road.

The home was opened by Mid Glamorgan County Council in 1974 and is now one of only a few hostel-type residen-

tial homes in Wales.

A council spokesman said that the building was now outdated and does not meet modern requirements, which place a greater focus on the use of smaller community-based facilities.

The statement added: "As such, Bryneithin is no longer suitable for providing services to people with learning disabilities."

Cabinet received a report from Abigail Harris, corporate director of wellbeing, which stated that there was an on-going programme in Wales to resettle people with a learning disability.

The aim is to place people in more independent, supported living accommodation settings.

The report said that attempts had been made to develop smaller, homely units within Bryneithin but it was still not suitable.

In the past, Bryneithin has accommodated up to 27 people, with some having to share bedrooms.

However, the number of beds has been reduced because of new regulations.

Also, demand for places has dropped as individuals and their families have opted for supported housing in the

community.

Some residents of Bryneithin have also been moved out into their own homes in the community with appropriate 24-hour support.

The cabinet heard that since 1983, the government has been resettling people with a learning disability away from large institutions like Hensol and into their local community where houses have been provided under the Social Housing Grant.

The report said that there are now 138 people being supported to live independently within their own tenancies at 51 different locations across the borough.

The report heard that the bedrooms at Bryneithin no longer meet wheelchair standards and a number do not meet standards for people who are able to walk.

The report said that Bryneithin was no longer "fit for purpose" and its driveway was also very steep and not wheelchair friendly.

Consultations have been taking place over the past year with residents, parents, carers and staff about the long term future and there have been no objections to moving people into smaller homes.

The council has put in

a bid in the Social Housing Grant for 2010-11 for three purpose-built homes in Maesteg, and an emergency and assessment bungalow in Cornelly.

First Choice Housing Association will be the registered social landlord for the three homes to be built in Maesteg – at Salisbury Road, Princess Street and Coed Parc.

The houses will be in the names of the new tenants who will be resettled from Bryneithin.

The emergency bungalow will be in Ael y Bryn, Cornelly, and this will accommodate people who cannot stay at home or are likely to become homeless, as a short-term measure until a new home can be found in the community.

This bungalow will be run by Valleys To Coast.

The cost of running Bryneithin is £712,970 a year and this sum will be re-directed to pay for the care for people in the four new homes.

It is planned at the moment, that the respite flat at Bryneithin will remain in use, as it is newer than the rest of the building, but in the longer term, it may be relocated to an alternative existing establishment.

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BRIDGEND ATHLETIC UNDER-12s' IN ANNUAL PRESENTATION NIGHT



ABOVE: Ath under-12s with Benetton Treviso on tour.

BRIDGEND ATHLETIC RFC under-12s held their annual presentation awards at the weekend and celebrated what has been another extremely successful and enjoyable season for the squad.

The highlight of their season was getting to the final of the Ospreys Cup, where they were involved in a thrilling encounter with local team Tondy, both teams sharing the spoils as joint cup winners after a pulsating 21-21 draw.

The team played 22 fixtures during the season, won 20, lost one and drew one. Points for were 720 and points against 145.

They entered tournaments at Richmond, London, Weston Hornets and Abergavenny getting to the semi-final stages of them all thanks to a real strong effort where everyone in the 27-strong squad contributed with game time.

Players were congratulated on their achievements and presented with trophies by Lloyd Peers, a member of this season's record breaking Athletic Youth side, and captain of the Wales under-18s squad this year.

Four individual awards were handed out: Daryl Dyke 'spirit of rugby' award – Adam Lang; Most Improved Player – Jack Hogan; Most Promising

Player – Ethan Candlish-Nott; under-12s Player of the Year – Tomos Pritchard.

Tom Pritchard was also named as the under-13s captain for next season.

There were many to thank this year, starting with the coaching staff of Tony Bennett, Phil McArde, Ian Lewis and Paul Davies.

A massive thank you went to team manager Angela Bennett for her hard work in organising this season's tour.

She congratulated the boys and their families for the way they represented the club and played on tour in Italy at the end of May, playing two games and winning them both against bigger and stronger opponents Benetton Treviso 14-10 and Mirano Rugby 27-0.

All the boys contributed to a successful season and celebrated afterwards by watching the British and Irish Lions game at the Athletic clubhouse.

Coaches and players deserve a well-earned break to get ready for what is sure to be a tough under-13s season starting in September.

Training for the under-13s season begins at 11am on Sunday, July 26, at Newbridge Fields, Bridgend. For more information visit www.bridgendathleticrfc.com and following the under-13s link.

Who is building what and where in the county borough

Mrs Owen, rear of 6 Y Lan, Pencoed – cut back overhanging branches of tree.

Mr S Hanford, 4 Clevis Hill, Porthcawl – new single garage.

Mr Bilaal Ahmed Khan, 301 New Road, Porthcawl – demolition of house and erection of detached block of flats.

Miss L Moryc, 38 Bryn Henfaes, Broadlands – conservatory and garden fence.

Mr M Prosser, 12 Oaklands Road, Bridgend – ground floor extension to rear.

Mr M Richards, The Royal Oak Inn, 21 Station Road, Kenfig Hill – single storey rear side cellar extension and alterations.

Mr G Bedesha, Longacre Court, Colman, Bridgend – replacement dwelling.

Mr DM Mathias, Ritz Bingo premises/embassy cinema site, adjacent to Tondy Road/Bridgend – demolition of cinema and construction of temporary car park.

K Bryant, 20 Llangewydd Road, Bridgend – change front door and three windows - Article 4(2) directions.

Mr J McCarthy, 7

Llwyn Derwen, North Cornelly – site and rear two storey extension, including conservatory.

Mr M Khaliq, land R/O 52A and 54 Heol Llan, North Cornelly – bungalow behind 52A and 54 Heol Llan, formed by re-adjusting boundaries and forming new entrance. **44 Heol Llan, North Cornelly** – change of use from empty lock-up shop to hot food takeaway and amendment to parking layout.

Mr and Mrs Middleton and Desmond, land adjacent Court Terrace, Cwm Ffoes, Cefn Cribbwr – demolish stables and erect two stable blocks and tack rooms, with hardstanding and parking – off footpath 29 Cefn Cribbwr.

Cenlin Limited, former Stormy Down Airfield, Pyle – change of use of open area to permit open storage of portakabins and steel storage containers.

Vary conditions 1 and 2 of P/03/939/FUL to permit the continued operation of Sunday market on a reduced area.

Mrs E Bull, 6 Heol y Derw, Evanstown – provide ramp and hardstanding for client's

vehicle for client to have access to property.

Wales and West House Association, east of Coed Castell, Coychurch Road, Bridgend – residential development of 16 two-bedroom, two-storey houses; 15 three-bedroom 2.5 storey houses and eight two-bed flats.

Mr E Averill, New Bungalow, Cae Helyg Farm, Pant Hirwaun, Bryncethin – convert existing garage to habitable room.

Mr R Day, land at 1 South View, Pontycymer – new detached dwelling.

Mr G David, land adjacent 190 Oxford Street, Pontycymer – three dwellings.

Mr V John, 10 Hutchwens Close, Porthcawl – demolish dwelling and erect three new dwellings in grounds.

Mrs G Jones, 18 Glannant Road, Evanstown – demolish existing outbuilding to side and erect shower room for disabled person.

Mr M Owen, 40 Maiden Street, Maesteg – two-storey extension and internal alteration and single storey garage at rear.

BCBC Children's Directorate, Brackla Infants and Junior School, Brackla Way, Brackla – Brackla Infants/Junior amalgamation project, phase 4, extension and internal alterations.

Mr MP Edwards, Church Hall, mission Road, Maesteg – change of use from church hall to domestic dwelling.

Porthcawl Counselling Service, 14 Victoria Avenue, Porthcawl – change of use from residential to office use to provide facilities for counselling and training.

Mr J Tantom, Westways, 14 Heol Ton, Ton Kenfig – two-storey extension to rear of dwelling and conservatory to frontage.

Mr D James, 6 Rushfield Gardens, Bridgend – conservatory to rear of dwelling.

Mr K Davies, 4 Ty Draw Crescent, Pyle – front conservatory, two-storey rear and side extension, rear dormer.

Mrs CMA Roberts, redundant barn at Llwydarth Farm, Maesteg – conversion of redundant barns to residential use.

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Police appeal to public in murder probe at Brackla

POLICE last week launched a murder investigation, following the death of Wendy Jane Thomas in her home at Bishopwood, Brackla, Bridgend, on Tuesday, June 16.

Officers were called to 40-year-old woman's home after friends became concerned for her safety. When the officers attended at the address, Ms Thomas was found with head injuries, a spokeswoman reported.

Police are trying to piece together the dead woman's movements between the Monday night at 4pm and Tuesday night at 8.30pm.

They are appealing for information regarding anyone acting suspiciously in the area at the time.

The spokeswoman reported that police are also investigating the sudden death of a man found at

1.40am on Wednesday June 17, at his home address, at Heol Gadlys, Litchard, Bridgend.

They are appealing for anyone who witnessed suspicious activity in that area, between 9.15pm on the Monday night and 1.40am on Wednesday, to come forward.

Senior investigating officer, Detective Chief Inspector Dale Ponting, of the major crime team, stated: "I want to reassure the community that a full police investigation is under way. Wendy's family have been devastated by this tragic incident and we would appeal to the local community to come forward with any information."

"We believe Wendy bought a Chinese take-away on Monday evening. We would like to know where and when she bought it."

"We're not looking for anyone else in connection with Wendy's death at this stage. However, we would like to piece together her

movements from Monday evening onwards," he added.

FAMILY TRIBUTE
FAMILY and friends of Wendy have paid a tribute to her.

Wendy's parents, Glad and Lyn, sister Julie and brother Matthew, and the rest of the family, all from the Bridgend area, said: "One of the lights of our lives has gone out; our beloved daughter was cruelly taken from the world. Wendy was a loving, happy girl full of joy, really fun-loving."

"She loved her job as a nurse in the Princess of Wales Hospital and was dedicated to the profession."

"Her house was her pride and joy and she loved her garden. Wendy has left a void in our lives which will never be filled. Instead of a sunbeam, she is now another sparkling star. God be with you, our lovely girl; rest in peace forever in the care of Jesus."

Princess Diana award for two Kenfig Hill Air Cadets

IT was a day of celebration on Friday for two Cadets from Kenfig Hill ATC as they received the Diana Anti-Bullying Award.

The award recognises the outstanding contributions young people make to help eradicate bullying in their schools or communities.

Cynffig Comprehensive School, where the presentation took place, nominated both Cadets.

Wing Commander R Wilson, Officer Commanding HQ No 3 Welsh Wing, attended



Cdt Cpl J Martin and Cdt Sgt K Williams

the presentation. "I was so proud to hear of the important work Cadet Sgt Williams and Cadet Cpl Martin have merged themselves in within their community, school and Air Cadets at Kenfig Hill. "They have achieved

this prestigious award through a great deal of hard work and commitment that support the ethos of the Air Cadets, and the legacy of Princess Diana."

Flt Lt B C Thomas, Officer Commanding Kenfig Hill Squadron said: "I was pleased to have supported both Cadets by way of a testimonial in support of their nomination. They well deserve this award."

Both Cadets are now looking forward to visiting Althorp in the summer, by invitation of Earl Spencer.

LINDSAY THOMAS
(Secretary Civilian Committee)

Veterans present as a special flag raised to honour Armed Forces



ABOVE: Veterans gather at the raising of the flag.

A SPECIAL flag in honour of servicemen and women in advance of the UK's first Armed Forces Day was raised on Monday, outside Civic Offices in Angel Street, Bridgend.

The ceremony was attended by the new Mayor of Bridgend County Borough, Coun Jeff Tildesley and his chaplain Pastor Roy Lewis, the Youth Mayor Lee Parker and deputy Youth Mayor Liam Rose, the Deputy Leader Coun David Sage and members of the cabinet, and the council's assistant Chief Executive Dave MacGregor.

Representatives of the Bridgend and County Borough Veterans Association, the Royal British Legion, and the Royal Welsh Regiment, who last year were awarded the Freedom of the county borough,

were the council's special guests at the event.

Among them were local veterans Stan Fielding and Joe Corless, who both landed at Sword Beach on D-Day 65 years ago. The flag will fly each day up to and including Armed Forces Day.

Coun David Sage said: "Bridgend County Borough Council is proud to fly this special flag in honour of our former and current servicemen and women and their families. This reminds our whole community of the important role they play and the debt we owe them."

Mayor Tildesley added: "I am particularly delighted that our local veterans were represented on this important day and also that our friends from the Royal Welsh were present to perform the honour of raising the flag. It was an event of great celebration but it was also very moving."

Coun Major Wayne Morgan MBE, who is chair of the Bridgend branch of the Royal British Legion and the Bridgend & County Borough Veterans Association, said: "On behalf of the veterans, can I say that I am very grateful to Bridgend County Borough Council for putting on this flag-raising ceremony, which is the start of this week's celebration of our armed forces no matter where they are serving in the world."

"It represents the nation's gratitude to them for all that they do on our behalf. Bridgend County Borough Council should be proud for the way it honours local serving personnel."

On Armed Forces Day itself, a large parade, organised by The Bridgend and County Borough Veterans Association, takes place in Bridgend town centre. It will start at



D-Day veteran Stan Fielding.

10.30am at Bridgend Recreation Centre and will reach the town centre war memorial at approximately 11am, where there will be a short celebratory tribute to the armed forces. Later, Bridgend Recreation Centre will host a performance of *Lili*, which tells the story of Lili Marlene.

REMEMBERING THEM IN BRIDGEND BOROUGH



ABOVE: Veterans, local officials and guests gather at the flag outside the Civic Offices

Veterans honour Mayor and leader of borough council

THE Mayor of Bridgend county borough Jeff Tildesley and the leader of Bridgend County Borough Council, Coun Mel Nott, have been made honorary life members of the newly-formed Bridgend and

County Borough Veterans Association.

Association chairman Coun Wayne Morgan presented the framed certificates before the start of a special ceremony to mark the council's flying of the

first Armed Forces Day flag.

Mayor Tildesley said: "I am particularly honoured to receive this, particularly on what is such a special day."

The GEM is now online at bridgend-today.co.uk & porthcawl-today.co.uk

'BOUNDARY COMMISSION SHOULD TRIM COUNCILLORS'

DURING the next 12 months, the Boundary Commission of the Welsh Assembly will look at constituencies for the next county council elections.

I think that because Brackla is now such a large area, that changes should be made there.

At the moment, the first four candidates in the Brackla poll go forward as candidates.

I don't think someone coming in fourth should become a coun-

cillor, and I believe that Brackla should be broken up into wards, with one councillor going through from each ward.

The overall aim of the Boundary Commission should be to cut the number of councillors on Bridgend County Borough Council by about one-sixth, from 54 to 45, perhaps by looking at areas which have three councillors that could be represented by two, and those with two who need have only one.

Jeff North
Bridgend

Garw Valley boosted by Barry Railway project

THE 'new-generation' Garw Valley Railway received a major boost recently when a 2-car

Class 108 diesel multiple unit belonging to the Barry Railcar Project moved to the line in readiness for the first trains.

The unit comprises DMBS 51919 and DMS 52048. The two vehicles moved to the railway's Pontycymer base, causing much interest among the residents of the former mining valley.

The 4.5 mile line, situated in Bridgend county borough, runs from Pontycymer at the head of the steeply-graded and picturesque valley, to a point at Brynmenyn close to Tondy station on the Maesteg branch.

The current operating base of the line is located at the site of the former Pontycymer station where the two-road locomotive works houses the rolling stock.

The GVR received a further boost in January when, following agreement with the GVR board, the Vale of Glamorgan Railway decided to relocate to the line, following their

eviction from Barry.

The railway retains its own identity, but works as members of the GVR in their aims to reopen the branch.

It is hoped that the line will partially reopen either late in 2009 or early 2010 along a section of the line.

Services will run initially with the DMU, but steam and diesel locomotive operations have not been ruled out in the future.

To this end, RSH 0-4-0ST 7705, owned by a consortium of VGR members, will move to Pontycymer for restoration and use. The GVR continues to see a steady rise in membership.

The line closed in 1997 when the final freight service left Pontycymer and has remained largely intact since.

The lower section of the branch, still owned by Network Rail, recently saw a visit from the Cwm and Go(ne) railway hauled by 60024 and 37401.

NW

News in and out of class at St David's Church in Wales school, Colwinston

Pupils are taking care of their environment

PUPILS at St David's Church-in-Wales Primary School, Colwinston, recently celebrated World Environment Day with a host of activities.

The day was organised by teacher Leah Croke, and members – adults and pupils – of the Eco and Fairtrade committees.

Parents and villagers supported the day by buying plants, books, Fairtrade products and fruit kebabs from the stalls – which raised almost £400.

Each class presented a workshop concerned with recycling, solar cooking, water conservation, or litter picking in the village.



ABOVE: Nia and William of year-4 were preparing food.



ABOVE: Grown-up helpers Felicity, Caroline and Jess were preparing fruit kebabs.

CAPTAIN JOE STARS FOR WALES



ABOVE:

Year-6 pupil Joe Davies recently captained the Welsh under-11 rugby team. The school believes this is the first time that a Vale pupil has been awarded the honour. Joe is pictured (above) with governor Geoff Bates and headteacher Nigel Kinsey.

Transforming a wheelbarrow!



ABOVE: Face painting was very popular.

PICNIC TIME FOR (THE PUPILS') TEDDY BEARS!



ABOVE: The reception class at St David's Primary recently brought their teddies to school for a picnic on a sunny day!

RIGHT and BELOW: St David's Colwinston were the winners of their category when year-2 pupils decorated a wheelbarrow for the RHS Horticultural Show in Cardiff with a peacock theme.

The pupils are pictured with their teacher, Kim Lewis, classroom assistant Gemma Carter, and school caretaker Robert Thomas. The prize was £100 from Legal and General.

Three pupils, James, Zoe and Imogen, are pictured (below) at the cheque presentation ceremony.



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Wishes the Barry Scouts and Guides a Successful Fete

Barry Scouts and Guides 2009

The Mayor of the Vale of Glamorgan Council, Councillor Emlyn Williams, is pleased to support the Barry Scouts and Guides 2009 fete and wishes them a successful event



Sgwotiaid a Geidiau'r Barri 2009

Mae Maer Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, y Cynghorydd Emlyn Williams, yn falch o gael cefnogi Gwyl Sgwotiaid a Geidiau'r Barri 2009 ac yn dymuno pob llwyddiant iddi.

Festival highlights talented young musicians in the area



ABOVE: So, what is the collective noun for a group of harps?

The GEM was surprised to find that, according to Wiktionary, it is a 'twangle'!

THE Ewenny Arts Festival is presenting Sound of Summer, as part of the Third Annual Youth Festival.

The first festival concert is to be held at Ewenny Priory Church tomorrow (Friday, June 26) at 7pm.

The concert will feature St David's Church

in Wales school choir; St Brides Major Church in Wales school choir; Tjodalving Skolekorps school band from Norway; and talented local young pianists Matthew Reynolds and Honor Wainwright.

Also appearing will be Rotary Young Musician of the Year winner, cellist Ben Tarlton; and Celtic harp

ensemble 'Alaw y Telynau' ('Harmonious Harps').

'Alaw y Telynau' ('Harmonious Harps') is an ensemble of 10 young girls from Ysgol Iolo Morganwg and one boy, Ioan Wardhaugh, from Llangan Primary School.

A spokeswoman said: "The last two youth festivals have been a great

success and this looks to be another wonderful evening showing off some of the best talent in the Vale."

Tickets £5 and are available on the door or in advance from Ewenny Pottery 01656 653020, Helen 01656 667047 or Mari 01656 664105.

What is that Buzz in the local classrooms?

AN exciting new Spelling Bee adventure has been launched in local schools by Barry Comprehensive.

Teams of three pupils in years 7, 8 and 9 from Stanwell, St Cyres Comprehensive, Ysgol Bro Morgannwg, as well as Barry Comprehensive, are competing in a series of heats at each of the schools.

The pupils are asked to spell 10 words during each heat. The final, to be held on July 8, will determine the overall winning spelling school, and an individual win-



Year-8 spellers concentrate as the competition progresses.

ning pupil from each of the three year groups.

The first of these events took place on Wednesday, June 10, at

Barry Comprehensive, and all pupils displayed excellent spelling skills, with high scores being awarded to all.

In the lead so far for year-7 is Barry Comprehensive with 30/30; for year-8, Stanwell Comprehensive lead with 30/30; and for year-9, joint leaders are Stanwell Comprehensive and St Cyres Comprehensive.

The scores will be accumulated as the heats progress, and schools will enter the final on July 8 with an individual score out of 40 and a team score out of 120. Good luck, spellers!


AC



LEFT: Year-9 spellers during the first heat at Barry Comprehensive.

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NEWS FROM PENARTH COMPUTER CLUB

Notes on remembering the computing basics

I REMEMBER some years ago, being fascinated by a skiing statistic...It was along the lines that a skier had a one in 16 chance of breaking a limb on his first skiing holiday.

After several years of acquiring the relevant skills, his chances of breaking a limb on a skiing holiday increased to one in four!

The logic was explained thus: as a beginner, he would have lots of falls but would do himself no serious damage because his speed was so slow. However, after years of improvement, his speed increased to the point that any single accident was likely to break a limb.

In the computing world, there are similar stories indicating that being more skillful doesn't mean that you are less likely to make a

mistake. The extra skill often gives rise to the pride of overconfidence before the inevitable fall.

I once had a colleague who was in charge of a large database that was constantly being updated (by a part-timer inputting data three days a week).

When he told me that the system had crashed I sympathised with the extra work involved in re-establishing the database from the back-up files.

He then confessed that the files had not been backed up for three months.

And he was the chap who was nagging everybody else to make frequent backups.

It is commonly accepted in the computer world that the only people who do not back up their files regularly are those who have not lost any. Yet.

In the same vein, a friend who was expert in computing was present-

ed with a problem by a novice. He was trying to copy a lot of little files to a floppy disk (remember those?), but the copying kept stalling before all the files were copied, in spite of there being ample room on the floppy.

The expert struggled manfully without success, until he went back to basics and remembered that the root directory of a floppy disk can handle only 64 files or directories.

As there were more than that to be copied, the system could not copy them into the root. However, there is no such restriction on a sub-directory.

The system happily copied all the files into a single sub-directory at the first attempt.

Why am I recalling these examples?

For years I have had no requirement for coloured prints and have been content to enjoy the quality of a black-only (mono) laser printer.

Colour laser printers were expensive and I couldn't justify the cost. Now my mono laser is old and is making warning noises with every print.

I decided that colour laser printers are now within my budget (its cost now less than originally paid for the mono laser!) and took the plunge.

My new piece of kit looked great and produced a superb test print.

The simplest way to test colour printing was to print out a few sample pictures, as I have no variety of colour documents on my computer because I only print in

black or grey-scale.

I was surprised when the colour photographs were produced in grey. Experiments showed that the colours were being used to make the greys, because when instructed to print in grey the result was clearly different.

I checked all the installation and set-up instructions carefully, but the printer would print only in grey, even after being told to use the colours.

An email to the suppliers elicited a reply offering instructions on making all the correct settings. The instructions matched precisely what I was already doing.

I went back to the golden rules of computing. One of the rules that I emphasise to people is that computers are NOT intelligent, in spite of the seemingly complex things they do.

They are capable only of doing exactly what they are told to do.

Therefore, I must be telling it to print out in grey, even when it is clearly instructed to use the colours.

To test this theory, I created a Word document using colours.

It printed beautifully without any problem.

Reasoning that the "print in grey" instruction must therefore be in the photo-editing software, I looked through the Page Set Up menu.

Hey presto, I found that (years ago) I had set a requirement to print only in greyscale!

Problem solved; lesson learned; humility restored and hopefully a useful note of warning for others!

Remember the basics – always! **HD**

Plants fair

ON Sunday, June 28, at 10am-6pm, an unusual plants fair, including specialist nurseries from across Wales and the Borders, is being hosted by Dyffryn Gardens, at St Nicholas.

There is free entry to the plants fair located in the main car park, before the admission point.

For further information, telephone 01446 774036.

CHARITY JAZZ IN THE FIELD

AN open air jazz evening is taking place this weekend at Coity – to raise cash for a local charity which gives disabled people the chance to go horse riding.

The Bridgend branch of the Riding for the Disabled Association is holding the event at Longacre Farm, Coity, on Saturday (June 27). The gates open at 6pm, with the music starting at 8pm.

A spokesman said: "It is a fine setting and we are hoping for fine weather. However, we can move everything into the indoor riding school if it's wet."

He added: "This year's event is part of RDA (Coity) branch's 40th birthday celebrations, and it is dedicated to the late Barbara Ladbroke who, together with her husband John, founded the group in 1969."

More information can be obtained by visiting <http://jazzinthefield.com/index.php>

Bogus traders targeting householders – warning

VALE residents are being warned to be 'to be vigilant' as bogus traders are targeting the area.

Claiming to be from 'South Wales Trading Standards', they are contacting consumers who have recently had gardening or outside building work done on their property.

They claim to have a

rogue trader in police custody and if the resident pays a cash fee then they will be able to gain compensation on the resident's behalf.

A Vale Council spokeswoman said this week:

"Trading Standards do not, under any circumstances, ask residents to pay a fee to recover money from rogue traders and such requests should be

reported immediately.

"If you are approached by such an individual, make a note of their description and where possible the registration and description of the vehicle.

"Pass this information to our Trading Standards department on 01446 709105, or contact Consumer Direct Wales on 08454 04 05 06".

'Microchipping pets can avoid distress' – say Conservative AMs



ABOVE: 'Here's one we chipped earlier!'

A CALL has been made for all dog owners to ensure that their pets are microchipped.

Vale Conservative parliamentary candidate Alun Cairns has backed the campaign as part of National Microchipping Month, run by Petlog.

The campaign will be running throughout June and aims to encourage responsible pet ownership, with microchipping their preferred method of permanent pet identification.

Mr Cairns said: "Losing a pet is a very distressing but knowing that they have been microchipped can bring great peace of mind because if they are found your data will be on the register enabling you to be contacted."

'WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS!' Does this acting school have most talented group in area?

THE competitive edge is part of modern day society – not just in sport, but also the entertainments industry – and one local performing arts class can boast eight champions in a single class!

The Ferris Entertainment Academy of Performing Arts class which is held in the Conservative Club at Penarth, has an amazing eight Welsh champions in its ranks.

Acting coach Peter Ferris said: "I have been teaching screen acting for more than 23 years, but none of the classes have had such an incredible range of talents in a single room."

In the past, Peter has taught the likes of Martine McCutcheon, Louise Redknapp, Sheree Murphy and Russell Brand, so he knows a thing or two about it takes for

someone to succeed in the showbiz world.

Peter said that having so many driven youngsters in one room means they are all highly motivated.

He commented: "Their competitive edge comes out when they are in our classes, and it is incredible how it has encouraged them to get better and better so quickly."

The champions are:

Natalie Stokes, aged 16 from Barry, who is the Welsh Free Ice Dance Champion.

Danielle Evans (15) from Penarth, is the Welsh Compulsory Ice Dance Champion.

Becky Jenkins (10) from Barry, is the European and British under-16 individual line dance champion, and came second in the World Championships.

Bethan Thorngate (14) and Elise Tyler (14) are both from



ABOVE: Some of the acting school's champions (pictured above) are Louise Howard, Lewis Jenkins, Luke Waddon, Bethan Thorngate, Natalie Stokes and Elise Taylor.

Barry and were two of the dance crew who won the Welsh Street Dance Championships.

Louise Howard (14) from Bridgend is a black belt at Karate and won two golds medals at the European Karate Championships. She will soon be representing Wales in New York.

Luke Waddon (13) from Wenvoe, was the

winner of the most promising singer category in the Vale 2008.

Peter added: "If there is any other school that has more champions I would like to know about it!"

If you know of a talented group of youngsters who deserve to be recognised please contact The GEM on email ggem@internet-today.co.uk.

Founder tells of the success of ValePlus special needs scheme

THE guest speaker at the June meeting of Soroptimist International (Barry and District) was Melanie Carter of ValePlus.

She is well known to many Soroptimists as she was chosen for the Club's 'Women in the Community' Award in 2003 for her outstanding achievement in setting up ValePlus.

In 2001, Melanie, together with fellow teacher Steve Thomas, gave up their secure jobs as special needs teachers, bought a disused chapel

in High Street, Barry (which was financed by Melanie and her husband re-mortgaging their home) and set up their centre which provides educational, social and vocational opportunities for adults with learning and associated problems.

Club members were pleased to be brought up-to-date, learning that over 100 people (with ages ranging from 17 to 61) now attend the courses run by Melanie, Steve and their staff of 12.

They also run an outreach centre in Llantwit Major and their own charity shop, NOVA,



Melanie receives the cheque from president Iris.

also in High Street.

ValePlus was chosen as the club's main charity for the year and president Iris Hopkins was delighted to take the opportunity

to present Melanie with a cheque for £1,500, part of the proceeds of the excellent musical evening held at Dyffryn earlier in the month.

PUPILS' ORCHESTRA WILL HOLD EVENING SOIREE IN COWBRIDGE



ABOVE: The Primary Cluster Links Orchestra (PCLO) and friends – made up of pupils from local primary schools – is to hold its first 'Evening Soiree' on Tuesday, July 7, at the sixth form hall, Cowbridge Comprehensive School.

A spokeswoman for the orchestra said: "The soiree will begin at 7pm, tickets are £2, and members of the public are welcome".

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Music in the Vale finalists at Senedd

LAST Friday, for the fourth year running, Music in the Vale finalists were able to enjoy the acoustics of the Senedd building, Cardiff Bay, at a reception hosted by Jane Hutt, Minister for Education and the Vale Assembly Member.

"I was delighted to host a concert in the Senedd for the 2008 Music in the Vale Young Musicians of the Year, to give them the opportunity

to showcase their talents in our landmark building to families, friends and supporters. "The young singers and instrumentalists competition, held at Ysgol Bro Morgannwg in Barry each year, is run by volunteers who are committed to giving opportunities for our talented young musicians in south east Wales to compete and perform to develop their skills and experience.

"I am proud to be associated with Music in the Vale and to congratulate these outstanding

young people who performed so beautifully in the Senedd on Friday evening," the AM said. Secretary Dawn Déchamps said: "Thanks to Jane Hutt initiating the first reception and offering a performance slot for our finalists, the committee started to work on finding additional performance opportunities throughout the year following the competition.

Last week's Senedd concert was actually the third of the four performance opportunities that Music in the Vale have offered their finalists this year.

The fourth free opportunity will be on August 22 (1pm-2pm), on the Glanfa stage in the Wales Millennium Centre.

The next Music in the

Vale competition will take place in Barry on November 28 and 29.

For more information, visit the web site: www.musicinthevale.org.uk or contact the Secretary, Music in the Vale, Six Wells Farmhouse, Vale Business Park, Cowbridge, CF71 7PF, (telephone 01446 771318).



RIGHT: Jane Hutt (AM), Megan Morris, Epsie Thompson, Amelia Jones, Jodi Bird, Ben Tarlton, Joy Cornock, Clarke Alonzi, Darcie Lili Hamilton, Rhidian Jenkins, Dawn Déchamps.

Do you have suggestions for future of historic organ?

THE London and South of England Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society (ATOS) has received notice under the terms of their agreement with Barry Town Council that the famous Regal Edmonton 4/16 Christie Theatre Organ has to be removed from the magnificent setting of Barry Memorial Hall.

Since the organ's opening concert on St David's Day 1987, Barry and ATOS have benefited

hugely from a long-running series of dances played throughout by David Redfern, plus concerts featuring artists from here and overseas. Unfortunately, falling audience numbers and the introduction of a board of trustees and a change of hall management requiring higher hire charges, meant ATOS had to suspend concert activity.

We could not present concerts running at a loss for a sustained period.

ATOS have been negotiating with the Memorial Hall trustees with a view to re-start concert activity with

their support, and we have spent a considerable time trying to produce a positive outcome. The 12-month notice for removal has now been served.

All who have been involved in presenting and supporting our events over the years at Barry are warmly thanked by the ATOS Chapter Committee.

It is time therefore to consider a new phase in the life of this historic instrument. I welcome any thoughts on a future home from readers.

Len Rawle, 132 Berry Lane, Chorleywood, Herts, WD3 4BT; telephone 01923 720511.

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WEDNESDAY'S Pool Night

Pupils turn out for duck race

THERE was great excitement in Cowbridge, last Saturday (June 20) for the 'Duck for Dad' race, staged for Father's Day by Y Bont Faen School.

The launch into the river by year-4 pupils took place at 12pm on the bridge on the High Street, amid great excitement from the children who had come to cheer on their ducks.

Children from the school, accompanied by mums, dads, grandparents, aunts, uncles and friends, made their way through the park and cheered the ducks along the river bank.

It was a tricky obstacle-filled course and,

with any demanding race, there were some stragglers along the way who were all rescued by a year-4 pupil, James, who was responsible for getting in and out of the river for the stranded ducks.

Richard Watson, chairman of the PTA, along with another parent, Dave Sims, leapt in to help James when the number of ducks was overwhelming him!

James even rescued some ducks which had refused to budge after the race had long finished and everyone had gone home. They were numbers 73, 97, 130 and 158!

The ducks made their way slowly along the



James was in charge of rescuing lost ducks.

river towards the finish line, the bridge in Twt Park. Richard, Dave and James then waded in and waited for the ducks to arrive, where all were eventually retrieved. Prizes for the first three ducks to cross the finishing line were kindly

donated by Costco, who provided sweets for all the children.

Many families then took advantage of the dry weather for the planned 'Picnic in the Park'.

Thanks go to all those that attended and to all the PTA Members/Volunteers who helped the event run so smoothly.

The event raised more than £185 towards the Y Bont Faen PTA School Fund and I am sure the winning duck will be ready to defend the title next year!

Winning ducks: First, Harry Holtam, second, Lowry Crossman and third, Erin Caddy.

KN

Junior schoolchildren try their hand at pond-dipping

MORE than 60 pupils and teachers from Cadoxton Junior School were invited to East Aberthaw Nature Reserve - as part of Wales Biodiversity Action Week.

The reserve, owned by RWE npower's Aberthaw Power Station, and managed in partnership with the Wildlife Trust of South & East Wales, has a varied habitat - from woodland, grassland, coastal and lagoon areas.

Wildlife Trust volunteers conducted a nature ramble and pond-dipping exercise during the event sponsored by Aberthaw Power Station and supported by Brandon Hire.



WE'VE GOT A BITE!

ABOVE: Both pupils and teachers had a great day pond-dipping at East Aberthaw Nature Reserve.

Cylch Meithrin Y Bont-faen wants to meet more parents

Cylch Meithrin Y Bont-faen is having a cheese and wine evening on Thursday, July 2, for parents interested in learning more about Welsh medium pre-school education.

The evening will be an opportunity to see the new unit behind the leisure centre at the Boardshoed in Cowbridge.

The Cylch Meithrin follows the foundation phase, where children 'learn through play'.

Amanda Boyd (Cylch manager) and her team will be available to answer on enrolment.

The children have had a wonderful term. The garden at the Cylch is coming along and they have had lots of fun in the outside space available. There was even a visit from a baby lamb!

The children have been learning about

shapes this term, and spotted many shapes on a trip to Twt park and the Physic Garden.

The children also called in to Holy Cross Church and admired the many shapes and colours in the stained glass windows. There are opportunities to learn everywhere!

Cylch Meithrin Y Bont-faen provides Welsh medium pre-school education for all children from two years.

Contact Amanda Boyd on 01446 776250 for details.

TRACEY SIMPSON



ABOVE: Pupils on gardening duty.



RIGHT: The children at the Physic Garden.

Group aim to end use of plastic bags



LEFT: Penarth resident Margaret McMillan with a Vale Council jute bag.

A NEW 'green' group, campaigning against plastic carrier bags, has been backed by the Vale Council.

Penarth-based 'Gwyrddio Penarth Greening' (GPG) wants residents and businesses to become more aware of the environmental cost of using plastic bags by looking at alternatives such as reusable jute bags.

Council waste awareness officer Vicky Gowin recently took to the streets of Penarth with Gwyrddio Penarth Greening's chair, Tricia Griffiths, and their plastic bag awareness project leader, Alison Norris, to

speak to local residents and retailers.

Vicky said: "As well as being a very visible form of littering, particularly across parks and open spaces, plastic bags can sometimes take up to 1,000 years to biodegrade."

"The GPG plastic bag project in Penarth aims to raise awareness about this waste issue by reducing the need to use plastic bags, encouraging re-use where they do exist, and promoting alternative options."

GPG will take the message throughout the Vale this summer by conducting retailer questionnaires and attending local events such as the Penarth Festival in July.

Get more mobile by 'extending yourself'

ELDERLY residents from the Communities First areas have been keeping themselves fit – by taking part in locally run 'Extended' classes.

Extend provides recreational movement for men and women over 60, and for less able people of all ages.

The classes, led by experienced tutor Marianne Harman, enable people with differing abilities to work out their bodies to music in a fun way.

The classes aim to promote health, increase mobility and independence, improve strength, coordination and balance and to counteract loneliness and isolation, thereby enhancing the person's quality of life.

The sessions cost £2 and will run at the Children's Centre (Ramsay Road, Gibbonsdown) on September 4, October 2, November 6 and December 4.

Songs and arias for a summer afternoon

The South Wales branch of the English-Speaking Union (ESU) is holding a 'picnic and musical interlude' at St Donat's Castle, from 3pm to 6pm on Sunday, July 5.

Performing will be soprano Charlotte Ellett, tenor Noel Hernandez and accompanist Sharon Richards – all from the Welsh National Opera.

Members of the Dennis O'Neill International Academy of Voice will perform, and non members of the ESU are welcome.

For further information, contact Derek Morgan on 01656 669129, or email derekmorgan@admon.fsnct.co.uk

OPEN GARDENS MAKE IT A SUCCESSFUL DAY AT PENMARK VILLAGE

LAST Saturday (June 20) was a great day in Penmark, as it was the second time that the village had taken part in the National Gardens Scheme.

A village spokesman reports:

"This year, there were five gardens open – not bad considering we only have 62 houses (including the pub).

"They all looked beautiful, with some really interesting and unusual plants. As they were all quite different, no-one had a chance to be bored (even those who are not keen gardeners)."

"One of the houses is owned by Andrew Matthews, a well-known local singer, who had collected a group of friends to entertain visitors with popular pieces from various operas.

"In other houses, visitors could get tea, cakes and also buy plants. Judging by the number of people carrying bags of plants round the village, these were particularly popular.

"The ladies of the village had decorated St Mary's Church and many visitors commented on how lovely the flowers looked, and how well they complemented this charming old building.

"The whole effect was perfectly set off by the peals rung by our bell ringers, including John Reynolds, Andrew Ford and Mike Kemp.

"Everyone turned out to support the gardeners, with Andrew Ford and John MacManus leading a team of village children to organise the car parking and managing to

Cancer Research UK fundraiser

ON Saturday, June 27, at 12.30pm-3.30pm, a strawberry tea party in aid of Breast Cancer and Cancer Research UK, will be held in the main front field of Fontygary Leisure Park, Rhosce.

Contact 01446 713639 for full details.



ABOVE:

Mr Fox takes a rest.

avoid any traffic jams, even though we had more cars than last year.

"Mike Kemp drove the minibus, which provided welcome transport from the centre of the village to the outlying gardens at Penmark Place and Sefton Bungalow.

"While they are not far away, Penmark is a bit hilly, especially for the older visitors.

"The Six Bells, our village pub, was busy both providing very welcome drinks and food in the bar and restaurant and at the barbecue on the forecourt.

"The village hall acted as a base for selling tickets but also as a wine bar, and it housed an arts and crafts exhibition, which seemed to be much admired by our visitors.



ABOVE: Plants on sale at Gileston House.

"As well as all this, the village experienced an outbreak of scarecrows built by the children and, it is rumoured, by some of the grown ups as well.

"A rather unseasonable Santa Claus was delivering presents which, it appeared, were the target of a burglar.

"A fox was resting in one garden, while a mummy and a headless

ghost were also observed relaxing near the hall."

He concluded: "Altogether, it was a successful and enjoyable day which raised £2,750 for the National Gardens Scheme charities.

"Thanks go to the brave people who opened their gardens, and for the support they received from nearly all the rest of the village."

GD



ABOVE: The gardens at Penmark Place.



Another fantastic competition exclusively for GEM readers in conjunction with St David's Hall



Brian Blessed, narrator of the Children's Proms

THE WELSH PROMS Cardiff 9th - 25th July 2009

The Welsh Proms is one of the most thrilling events of Cardiff's artistic calendar and a highlight of the Cardiff Festival. For twenty-four years they have been conducted by their Artistic Director, Owain Arwel Hughes CBE who brings to them a combination of wonderful music-making and a festive party atmosphere, flowing through their home at St David's Hall, Cardiff, the National Concert Hall of Wales.

The 2009 Welsh Proms have nineteen events through a packed two weeks in which prestigious orchestral concerts rub shoulders with informal daytime events by talented younger musicians and an exciting new fringe programme of non-classical concerts.

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Which part of the world do cowboys famously come from?

a) The Naughty North. b) The Wild West. c) The Silly South

Please e-mail your answer along with your name, address, and telephone number to:

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By supplying your contact details you agree to be stored on St David's Hall database and agree to be contacted by St David's Hall for marketing purposes. If you do not wish to be contacted by St David's Hall please state in your e-mail entry, however all entries must be accompanied by the relevant contact details in order to notify the winners.

VALE PACT MEETINGS

LLANTWIT MAJOR PACT, leisure centre, June 30, 7pm.
ST BRIDES PACT, village church hall, July 1, 6pm.
BUTTRILLS PACT, Gladstone Primary School, July 1, 7pm.
DYFAN PACT, Barry Comprehensive School, July 1, 6pm.
PLYMOUTH PACT, Paget Rooms, Penarth, July 1, 7pm.
WENVOE coffee and chat meeting, Wenvoe Arms, July 2, 11am.
COWBRIDGE coffee and chat meeting, White Lion, Ystradowen, July 2, 11.30am.
CORNERSWELL PACT, Cogan Leisure Centre, July 2, 7pm.
DINAS POWYS PACT, Bethesda Hall, July 6, 7pm.
LLANDOUGH PACT, Memorial Hall, July 8, 7pm.

Cats adoption centre sends out urgent SOS

CATS Protection's Bridgend Adoption Centre, which is currently caring for 230 cats, has made a desperate plea for local residents to provide caring homes.

Manager Sue Dobbs said: "The Bridgend centre is bursting at the seams with many loving cats and kittens requiring

a home. Some of the adult cats have been at the centre for several months and are in desperate need of a home.

"The centre faces a difficult time every kitten season, but this year is worse than normal.

As well as looking after the 100+ cats already in our care, we have also taken in more than 100 unwanted and abandoned kittens, as a result

of unneutered cats breeding in the warmer weather, and we're expecting many more before summer is over."

One of the cats requiring a home is Felix, a big male cat with a friendly character.

He is one of a number of cats who have been at the centre five months or longer.

Contact the centre on 01656 724396.

'OUT OF TOWN' this Summer Talbot Green, Pontyclun and Llantrisant areas...



Little town that has it all – plus a strong community spirit...

PONTYCLUN is one of those little towns which seem to have it all... It has a variety of shops and services and can meet just about every need – with the advantage of a great community spirit.

Most of the shops are locally owned and offer a level of personal service to their customers which is missing from the large shops in bigger towns and cities.

And with the credit crunch starting to bite, many shoppers have gone back to basics. They are buying fresh food from the small shops in places like Pontyclun and avoiding the larger stores where they would be tempted to buy more luxurious items which they can ill afford.

Pontyclun has a nice variety of fresh food shops – butchers, green grocers, delicatessen, bakery and a couple of grocery shops.

There is also a florist, two chemists, a clothes shop, a bridal shop, a children's shop and other businesses offering services ranging from security, financial services, banks and legal advice, to an ironing service, hair and beauty, nails and even a vet!

... And when you have finished, there are a couple of coffee shops on hand as well as pubs, a bistro and take-aways offering meals.

One of the focal points of the community is Pontyclun Community Shop which offers people excellent value for money – as well as a place to meet and catch up on local news.

Manageress Vanessa Pullman said that despite reports from

some charities about a drop in the number of items being donated, there was a steady flow of goods into their shop: "We have plenty of things for sale and more coming in all the time. We get excellent support from the community."

More and more people are looking for a bargain in these difficult times and charity shops like this give people a chance to make their money go further.

"We have our regular customers who enjoy bargain hunting and we also have others who pop in occasionally but we can always offer them plenty of choice at bargain prices."

Linda Colley of the Flower Pot said that Pontyclun had a distinctive community with strong community spirit.

"People like shopping in a place where the shops are owned by local people who know

their customers and who offer high levels of service. People can get just about everything they need in Pontyclun and it is so much easier than travelling to larger towns where it is often difficult or expensive to park."

Her own shop has been in the town for 30 years – she has worked in it for 15 and owned it for five.

"The town has grown over the years with lots of new houses being built but it still retains its homely atmosphere. Shopping in Pontyclun is an enjoyable experience," she added.

Although Rhondda Cynon Taff Council has just imposed car parking charges in one of the town's car parks, traders point out that shoppers can still park for free at the other car park and there is no need to pay.

Butcher Ken is putting Pontyclun on royal map!

A MASTER butcher who has spent almost 70 years in the trade has been invited to Buckingham Palace to attend a garden party.

Ken Williams, who has a shop in Pontyclun, is looking forward to the trip in July.

"It was a huge surprise when the invitation arrived," he said. "Somebody contacted the Lord Lieutenant and that's how the invitation was arranged. I will be going with my son Rhys."

Mr Williams joined his father Len in the family butchery business in Llanharan when he left school in 1940 at the age of 14.

"Meat rationing came into force and it was a very difficult time to be a butcher," he recalled. "We could not waste anything – we had to make the meat go as far as we could so that everybody had something."

"We used to sell a lot of rabbits in those days – they were not rationed



Ken Williams is off to Buckingham Palace.

and people used to have them to supplement the meat ration."

Mr Williams' father died at the age of 44 and it fell to him then to take over the business with his mother.

"My two sisters were in college and I was the family's main breadwinner," he explained. "I was originally called up for the army but because of the situation at home, I was sent instead to the pit as a Bevin boy. I was working in Llanharan Colliery and used to work nights."

"I would then come home, snatch a few hours sleep and then go into the shop. It was a busy time."

father," he said. "I was born in Trealaw, which is where my mother was from, but we came to Llanharan when my father opened the shop."

The shop in Llanharan closed some years ago, but Mr Williams came to Pontyclun 16 years ago to help out at the shop and then took it over. He now runs it on his own.

"My wife Marjorie died last year after 57 years of marriage, so I am glad to have the company of my customers. They are a great crowd and I enjoy coming to work. I have no plans to retire at the moment because my health is good."

Mr Williams, who is 83, lives in Llanharan and has two sons, four grand-daughters, one grandson and three great grand-daughters.

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News, Sport, Letters, Features, What's On, Jobs, Motors...

Extra day in week for Giles Gallery adult art classes

GILES GALLERY is adding another day for adult art classes, as it is reaching capacity on Thursdays and Saturdays.

A new slot starts on

John Hughes, the family butchers

John Hughes is a traditionally-run family butchers, situated on Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun.

It has achieved meat products gold awards, including one for traditional pork sausage, pork garlic and leek sausage and beefburgers, steak pies – and a silver award for steak and kidney pies.

All these products are among a wide variety made on a regular basis at the locally-run butchers.

Telephone 01443 225225.

Wednesday afternoon, July 22, for five weeks.

Our ever popular Kids Club will also be returning during the summer holidays, on Fridays (10.30am-12.30pm). Please contact for details and bookings.

We have enriched our growing arts and craft supplies also, and now

carry a range of amazingly-priced sable brush collections, as well as budget collections and styles.

...And a quick reminder that we now cater for jewellery and card crafters...*So, feeling creative? Pay us a visit! 1 Cerdin Avenue, Pontyclun; telephone 01443 228638.*

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For more information contact Beth Giles Owner/Manager
1 Cerdin Avenue Pontyclun CF72 9ER (Behind Spar)
Tel: 01443 228638
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E: info@tmkaccounts.co.uk

A passion for good food...

WE are pleased to announce the opening of The Delicatessen, located at 24 Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun.

The shop opened on Saturday, June 20, and has received a very warm welcome from both local residents and businesses alike.

From a personal view, Jayne Watts also has a great fondness of the village, having lived there for six years.

Jayne has a wealth of

experience in the catering business, and this is combined with a passion for local produce and good home cooked food.

The shop offers a fantastic variety of produce ranging from cheeses to salamis, homemade freezer meals, cakes to desserts.

The shop will also be able to cater for any customer occasion.

If you are passing, please feel free to come in and have a browse. We look forward to seeing you; call 01443 225579.

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What's On and Summer Leisure

Local singers preparing to 'Rock' Memorial Hall

RIGHT: Local musician Dorothy Connell with the composer of 'Rock' Roger Jones.

SINGERS from choirs throughout the Vale will be taking part in a special performance of the musical *Rock* tomorrow (Friday, June 26) which tells the story of what happened to St Peter – the rock on which Jesus built the Christian church.

Composer Roger Jones tours with the musical throughout the UK and this week it is the turn of the Memorial Hall in Barry.

'Rock' has a small touring company of lead singers and actors, but the choir is recruited locally. It gives amateur singers an opportunity to perform in a large scale production.

The Barry performance is one of only two Welsh venues in the four tours that have so far taken place to 38 halls across the UK.

The choir plays a vital role as the people of the city and highlighting elements of the narrative.

Barry musician Dorothy Connell has helped to co-ordinate the event, with local singers rehearsing for the big day at venues throughout the Vale.

Tickets are available from Barry Memorial Hall Theatre box office; tel 01446 738622.



Oklahoma is riding to town with the Billboard Ensemble

YEE HAA! Dust off your cowboy hat and polish your boots because *Oklahoma* is coming to town!

Billboard Ensemble is staging this fabulous Rogers and Hammerstein musical in Barry's Memorial Hall Theatre from Wednesday, July 29, to Saturday, August 1, at 7.30pm.

Billboard have given audiences entertaining shows such as *Me and My Girl*, *Sweet Charity* and *Copacabana* since its formation in 1996.



The shows have been performed with professionalism, and have been packed with glamorous costumes and detailed sets.

Tickets for *Oklahoma*, will be available next week from the 'box offices' at Sew Simple, Holton Road, Barry and A & A Dancewear, Park Crescent, Barry, and are priced at £9 and £8 and the balcony is available for all performances.

For further information telephone Barry 401822 / 400055.

Local artists' display is praised by the Vale AM

VALE AM Jane Hutt visited the Canon Hill Studio Space 'Open Studios' at the end of a week-long exhibition by local artists.

"The Open Studios provide premises for a vibrant community of potters, print makers, painters, sculptors and the exhibition on display over the bank holiday week was inspirational," she commented.

RIGHT: Jane Hutt AM with Glyn Pooley and Maurice Carey.



Barry sculptor creates dragon for school pupils

RIGHT: This four foot Welsh dragon cast in resin/glass fibre, was created by Barry sculptor Peter Ainty for Graig Y Rhocca Junior School, Caerphilly, at the request of the pupils.



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● £5: 462042, 266396, 439447,

495771, 237670, 627465, 613650, 521910, 378964, 607822, 278506, 800641, 546450, 640818, 649134, 177621, 618623, 357028, 608297, 479558, 895065, 159659, 538174, 886442, 131546, 843475, 817304, 213707, 793047, 851439.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

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What's On and Summer Leisure

Robots don't transform into a great film epic!

IT has often been the prerogative of the major film studios to make their biggest films more 'toy-friendly'.

Not content with emptying parents' wallets at the cinema, they want them to be emptied at the nearest toy shop as well.

Joel Schumacher once claimed that this was one of the reasons his *Batman & Robin* sank like it did; there was no room for reality in a film designed to sell toys.

However, it can work the other way around as well, best-selling toys providing studios with the opportunity to make money from an existing fan base. This was all too apparent with 2007's *Transformers*, a film based around the robots in disguise that was a monumental success.

Its sequel was assured the moment the first went into production,

and hits screens now under the moniker *Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen*.

Set two years after events in the original, it sees Sam (Shia LaBeouf) preparing to go to college, while the Autobots, led by Optimus Prime (voiced by Peter Cullen), have joined forces with the military to capture the remaining Decepticons on earth.

However, when Sam finds a shard of the all spark from the last film, it reveals ancient information that will assist the Decepticons and the evil Fallen (voiced by Tony Todd) in coming back to earth and taking it over...

The general rule when it comes to sequels is 'bigger and better', often resulting in an overcooked end product that pales in comparison to the first one.

There are exceptions to the rule (*X2*, *The Dark Knight*, *Terminator*

2) but by and large, the majority of sequels don't live up to the expectation.

It is a problem that afflicts *Revenge of the Fallen*, as while it most certainly is bigger than its predecessor, it most certainly isn't better.

Having delivered so superbly with the first film, here director Michael Bay lets loose his wildest imagination, which results in some jaw-dropping superb action, and mind-numbingly awful moments. It's fair to say that the film runs the gamut of sublime to ridiculous with consummate ease.

Bay is a director easy to lampoon, his films are always glossy, drenched with testosterone and sunset skies, and while technically and visually superb, don't always satisfy in the way you hope.

When he's good, though, he's very good, and there is plenty of that in evidence here. Allied with the excellent effects work displayed, Bay shows a distinct lack of subtlety in blowing up as much as he can get his hands on as the robots fight their way through cities and forests, but it works as that's ultimately what you want from the film.

Bay has perfected the notion of popcorn spectacle, and ramps it up suitably here, delivering a film that far exceeds the scope of the first, with all manner of robots on show.

However, Bay's strength is also his Achilles heel, and while the spectacle has increased, so has the reliance on these somewhat overblown action sequences.

At 150 minutes, the film is really lean and taut, and the robotic smackdowns lose their

SCREEN TALK



by GARETH JAMIESON

lustre when wheeled out for the twentieth time.

It is a case of over-egging an already rather sumptuous pudding, and while the success of the last film obviously gave Bay a degree of carte blanche to do as he saw fit, a little bit of temperance would have gone a long way.

On the human side of things, the cast are very much secondary to the robots in terms of action, but are front and centre in terms of plot.

Luckily, Shia LaBeouf is more than capable of handling the weight, delivering another likeable turn as Sam, once again being thrust into the middle of a robotic war.

LaBeouf is hardly called upon to do any real acting, but he does provide a neat line in quips without coming across as smug or annoying.

As his girlfriend, Megan Fox may be incredibly pleasing to the eye, but as an actress it's difficult to judge who is more robotic - her or the Transformers themselves.

Her 'performance' mainly consists of lip gloss, legs and cleavage (and one does have to

question the health and safety aspect of her working in a garage with knee-high boots and a short skirt), and while certainly a turn suited for the males in the audience, adds very little to the film.

Far better are a range of smaller turns from the likes of John Turturro and Josh Duhamel, adding a bit of depth to the human element of the film without really doing too much, while the voice cast do their jobs with aplomb.

However, the twin cars that speak some peculiar form of urban jive are more annoying than meeting a lift full of Jar Jar Binks'.

The script follows a similar template from the first film, but adds in a few more fan favourite characters to up the ante, while deepening the mythology of the characters and their background nicely.

It's the dialogue, however, that jars the most, full of heavy-handed lines that mistake cliché for gravitas and it makes you snigger at the writers' inability to get something as basic as speech right in such a glossy film.

Ultimately, therein lies the main problem - despite the outward gloss, there is very little substance beneath it, which makes *Revenge of the Fallen* a somewhat underwhelming experience and certainly not a patch on the first outing.

VERDICT - An overlong, bombastic, 'directed by Michael Bay' experience, *Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen* lacks the charm of its forerunner, relying on explosions and little else.

As a blockbuster film it works satisfactorily, but it lacks the depth to really stand out on its own terms. *Average*.

A FUN-PACKED FAMILY DAY OUT AT TY HAFAN



ABOVE: Stormtroopers and Batman were on hand last year to keep an eye on proceedings.

THE annual Ty Hafan fun day takes place on Sunday, June 28, starting at the hospice at 12noon and going right through until 6pm.

Last year, it brought more than 1,500 people to the hospice on Hayes Road just outside Sully, which provides comfort, care and support to life-limited children, young people and their families right across Wales.

This year police dogs and horses will be putting on a display and the Cophorne Theatre Company will be performing pantomimes throughout the afternoon.

Dansette, a local soul band, and the Barry Brass Band will add their distinctive sounds, along with demonstrations from the Brandywine

Cloggers and the Vale Karate Club.

Last year's visitors will remember the amazing Welsh Bokkers, as well as the Star Wars Storm Troopers, who will be keeping everyone in order.

F1 drivers will have a chance to show their skills on the mini go-karts while Mum, Dad and the rest of the family can browse around the many craft stalls or the vintage cars display.

There will be an opportunity of a guided tour around the hospice.

All proceeds from the day will go towards Ty Hafan. Car parking will be available, with a suggested donation of £1 per car.

For more information, visit www.tyhafan.org or contact Mared on 029 2067 2081.

Students show their artistic and creative talents

AN exhibition showcasing the creative talents of final year art and design students from Barry College has gone on show at the Vale Council's Art Central gallery.

The exhibition is the outcome of students studying WJEC foundation diploma, BETEC First and national diplomas and foundation degree course at the college and shows a fantastic mix of imaginative

and creative art designs in a variety of media including textiles, fashion, ceramics, graphics, printmaking, photography and fine art.

A number of students have based their work around a recent educational visit to Paris, which has stimulated a range of new experimental approaches.

The exhibition runs until June 27 and entry is free. Art Central is open between 10am-4pm, Tuesdays to Saturdays.

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Tondu pupils go on mosque tour



Back row from left: Miss Hanley, PCSO Martin Trask, Mr Suleman Hawas and Mrs Mariam Wedd.

TONDU Primary School pupils had an insight into Islamic culture last week, when they visited the Glamorgan Muslim Community centre on Dunraven Street.

Organised by Tondy PCSO Martin Trask, 17 year-3 pupils toured the mosque from 9.45am, as Mr Suleman Hawas, general manager of the mosque, delivered talks on the Islamic religion

and traditions.

Pupils were shown the Quaran and learnt about the process of fasting in Ramadan, the Islamic celebration Eid, the lunar calendar, and the importance of Mecca. The children were then taken into the wash room where Mr Hawas explained the cleansing process Muslims complete before prayer.

The last part of the tour saw Mr Hawas demonstrate a daily prayer to the children in the prayer room, before

the children each selected a mat and practised the ritual for themselves. The tour then finished with a question and answer session.

Miss Hanley, the year-3 teacher at Tondy Primary also attended the visit.

She said: "Our pupils learn about world religions as part of the curriculum, so visiting a place of worship for the Islamic faith is a brilliant learning platform for them."

PCSO Trask said: "This has been a great opportunity for the children

to learn about another religion and culture that makes up our community. It's important for young people to learn about diversity so we can appreciate and respect each other.

"The children really enjoyed themselves, so thank you to Mr Hawas for facilitating the visit."

Mr Hawas said: "We were happy to have the children visit us today. They asked some fantastic questions and we're pleased they enjoyed the presentation. Anybody is welcome to tour the mosque."

INFORMATION CENTRE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE OPENS IN BRIDGEND

A NEW £157,000 high-tech mobile Youth Bus and £30,000 three-storey Just@sk youth information centre have been officially opened in Bridgend county borough.

Based at Wyndham Street in Bridgend town centre, the Just@sk centre will offer young people aged 11-25 the chance to get drop-in advice and guidance while using the centre's facilities.

A council spokesman said that youth workers, facilitators, peer educators and representatives from partner agencies, such as the Bridgend Local Health Board, will be available at the centre to provide young people with instant, up-to-date and reliable information that will help them make the right choices in life.

The Just@sk centre features facilities for



ABOVE: The £157,000 mobile youth bus.

providing confidential counselling, health advice, training classes, support for young parents and young people who are not in education, a crèche and a chill-out lounge.

A computer suite provides internet and digi-lab access and a fully equipped kitchen will be used to teach young people how to cook and live independently. The centre will also offer dance classes, hair and beauty sessions, film nights, multimedia equipment,

craft and hobby demonstrations and act as a base for the Bridgend Youth Council.

The state of the art Youth Bus will act as a smaller, more mobile version of the Just@sk centre. Featuring computer facilities and internet access, the bus is a partnership project between the voluntary and statutory youth service. It will travel around different communities throughout Bridgend County Borough to provide

services to young people who may not be as likely to travel to the Just@sk centre.

Coun Alana Davies, cabinet member for children and young people, said: "Here in Bridgend County Borough, our youth service runs a range of projects designed to provide young people with advice and guidance so that every choice they make is based on the best possible information.

"Young people are at the centre of everything that the Youth Service does. They are encouraged to become actively involved in projects which affect them and to also let other 11-25 year-olds know what services are out there for them.

"Nothing is more important than the welfare of the children and young people of Bridgend County Borough."

Coun Mel Nott, Leader of Bridgend County Borough Council, added: "Both the Just@sk youth information centre and Youth Bus form part of a major investment in services for young people in Bridgend County Borough."

Cancer Research shop holds fundraising day

THE Cancer Research UK shop in Caroline Street, Bridgend, held their first fundraising day recently to help raise additional funding for the charity.

Customers got involved in many activities such as 'Beat the Buzzer', Tombola and raffle. Winners during the day included Mr Jerzembek who won a meal for two donated by Jon Lockyer, manager of The Coity Castle Inn, a cut and blow dry voucher donated by Carol McAuley from Carol's Hair Studio on Wyndham Street, Bridgend, and a bottle of Glenmorangie whiskey donated by Jannet Hannah.

Manageress Kat Edger said: "I would like to thank all of our supporters who helped us raise a fantastic £247 and all of the volunteers who helped during the preparation and the day itself.

"We will be holding another fun day in the shop from July 31-August 1 and many more activities."

Communities First marks first 'birthday'

BRACKLA Communities First has marked its first anniversary with a special community celebration in Brackla Primary School.

It included the premiere of a film made by the team with members of the community, aged from eight to 70, which focused on diversity and accepting 'difference'.

The project involved working with a company called 'Options Training' which works to promote

tolerance and acceptance of difference and diversity. It was paid for from the Welsh Assembly Government's Equality and Diversity fund.

Among the guests local councillors John Spanswick and Pat Hacking, Corporate Director of Communities Louise Fradd, First Manager Sue Whittaker, PCSO Kerry Davies and Carwyn Jones AM, as well as partners including the police and housing associations.

Allison Pesticcio, co-

ordinator of Communities First, Brackla, said: "The project was aimed at promoting equality and diversity and accepting 'difference' not only within the community but also globally.

"At a local level, it helped members of the community, of all generations come and talk together which may not have happened without this project."

Robert lines up a skills award

ROBERT LEES from North Cornelly has been selected to attend the Wales Learndirect Achievement Awards. He was nominated in the Skills for Work award category and will attend a lunchtime awards ceremony at the Millennium Stadium in Cardiff on July 6. If he wins he will go forward to the national final to be held in London.

Robert (18) said that the learndirect course enabled him to "face my concerns" and being nominated was "great and feels like a step forward."

New recruit adds to patrols

THE latest 'recruit' to Ogmere Valley Neighbourhood Policing team is a brand new Ford 4x4, which will allow officers to cover difficult ground more efficiently while on duty.

Neighbourhood Sergeant Chris Truscott said: "Having the new 4x4 means we'll be able to conduct more efficient high visibility reassurance patrols in areas of the valley that were previously harder to

reach, such as farm tracks and rural land."

Although the vehicle will mainly be used for patrols further up the valley, the 4x4 will also be available for use in other areas of the Maesteg policing sector.

Sergeant Truscott said: "With the new vehicle on board, people in the valley can take comfort knowing more areas are being effectively patrolled on a more frequent basis, making communities safer and increasing police presence."

Illegal worker arrested at Porthcawl takeaway

TWO illegal workers have been arrested - after they were found being employed at takeaways in Porthcawl and Llantwit Major.

Acting on intelligence, immigration officers from the UK Border Agency visited Porthcawl Tandoori, Eastern Promenade, at about 6pm May 18.

A spokesman for the agency said: "After the immigration status of staff was checked, a 28-year-old Bangladeshi man, who was working in the kitchen, was found to have stayed in the UK after his visa had expired.

"He was arrested and taken to Bridgend police station for further ques-

tioning. He will be removed from the UK once emergency travel documents are secured by the agency."

Porthcawl Tandoori was issued with an on-the-spot penalty notice for employing an illegal worker and may now face a fine of up to £10,000.

To avoid the fine, the employers must prove to the UK Border Agency that they carried out the correct right-to-work checks (such as asking for a passport or work permit) before giving the man a job.

The spokesman said: "Officers then travelled to Roger's Takeaway, Pound Field, Llantwit Major, arriving at about 8pm.

"A 38-year-old Chinese man, who was working in the kitchen,

was found to have entered the UK illegally. He was arrested and taken to Barry police station and will be removed from the UK as soon as possible.

"The takeaway was also handed an on-the-spot penalty notice for employing an illegal worker."

Jane Farleigh, regional director of the UK Border Agency in Wales and the South West, added: "As long as there are illegal jobs, the UK will be an attractive place for illegal immigrants. That's why we have to put a stop to employers who don't play by the rules.

"We carry out regular intelligence-led operations across south Wales targeting immigration offenders and the businesses which employ

them. "The message is clear - if you are living or working here illegally, we will catch up with you."

Civil penalties for businesses who fail to carry out the proper checks when employing migrants from outside Europe were introduced by the government last year, allowing employers to be fined up to £10,000 per illegal employee.

The UK Border Agency names on its website employers who have been fined under the new rules.

Anyone who suspects that illegal workers are being employed at a business in Wales can contact the agency on 029 2092 4727.

Maesteg Cadet wins a VIP trip to Silverstone

CORPORAL Joseph Witts, of 631 (Maesteg) Squadron Air Training Corps, won a competition run by the Royal Air Force Altitude Scheme where the prize was a flying visit to the Silverstone Grand Prix. His knowledge of the Tornado fighter that he had learnt with the Air Cadets won him the prize last weekend.

Accompanied by his grandfather, Joseph (15) from Cwmavon, was given VIP treatment and whisked into Silverstone in a Longranger Jet helicopter to see the British



Cpl Wits at Swansea airport before his flight in an Air Cadet glider.

before the race, with an instructor alongside him.

He had the chance to experience a flight in a Merlin Helicopter simulator of the Royal Navy, and also shot a SA80 rifle on the Royal Air Force Regiment simulated range.

Cpl Wits hopes to join the RAF as aircrew when he is older, but on the way he is hoping to go solo, when he becomes 16, with the Air Cadets. Recently, he attended Air Cadet gliding training at Swansea Airport with 636 Volunteer Gliding Squadron where he flew for 40 minutes.

The 631 Squadron meet at Upper Street, Maesteg on Monday and Friday evenings for boys and girls age 13 and over.

Presentation night at Porthcawl Athletic

AS was reported in last week's GEM, Porthcawl Athletic Association recently held its presentation night.

The sports club, which runs 23 junior football teams, had plenty to celebrate, and the Hi-Tide Inn in Porthcawl was packed.

**PHOTOGRAPHS BY
KEITH E MORGAN.**



ABOVE: The under-16s Blues squad.



ABOVE: The Mermaids netball squad, who are aged between seven and 11.



ABOVE: Manager Greg Tonner and the under-14s team.



ABOVE: The under-9 Blues, who are managed by Stuart Brown.



LEFT:
Lewis Tonner was
the under-14s Blues
player of the year.

BELOW:
The under-8 Blues.



ABOVE: The under-10 Orange squad, who are managed by Anthony Palmer.



ABOVE: The under-8 Whites, who are managed by Terry Francis.



ABOVE: Phil Griffiths and his under-10s Blues squad.



ABOVE: Team manager Mike Pearson and the under-7s.



John Nelson and the
under-11 Blues.

SENIORS' CHAMPIONSHIP AT ROYAL PORTHCAWL IS A GREAT SUCCESS

IT was a good few days for the Smits last weekend!

First, Springbok captain Jon Smit captained his team to a victory over the Lions in Durban – and then his namesake Bertus took the first prize of £75,000 in the Ryder Cup Wales Seniors Open tournament at the Royal Porthcawl Golf Club.

The event, at the top-class course at Rest Bay has been hailed a huge success for the area.

With a prize fund of £500,000 and a first prize of £75,000, it is the second most lucrative event on the European Senior Tour.

Bertus Smit held off the challenge of home favourite Ian Woosnam to win the title.

Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) were closely involved in the organisation, working with the tournament organisers on issues such as car parking, signage and litter.

The deputy leader, Coun David Sage, who represented the authority at the event, said: "It was fantastic to see something so prestigious taking place in Porthcawl and for the council to be associated with such an outstanding event.

"It was superbly organised – so well done to the Ryder Cup, Royal Porthcawl Golf Club and employees of BCBC for making it happen."

He continued: "Supporters and players alike were able to see for themselves that the area is a great place to play golf, visit and do business and I feel sure that we will see many of them make a return visit when the Ryder Cup comes to Wales next year.

"We look forward to giving them a warm welcome."

PHOTOGRAPHS by MIKE STUBBS



ABOVE (left to right): John Jermaine (chairman of Ryder Cup Wales), Coun David Sage, (deputy leader, BCBC), Bertus Smit, Guy Leach (captain of Royal Porthcawl), Pam Williams (lady captain) and Carwyn Jones AM. (Photograph courtesy of Ryder Cup Wales).



ABOVE: The winner steps forward to receive his trophy.



The first tee at 'The Royal' – a picture perfect spot for golfers.



ABOVE: Ian Woosnam chips out of the severe Porthcawl rough.

LEFT: Delroy Cambridge, who recently took the Jersey Seniors title at La Moya, strays towards the out-of-bounds fence and finds a particularly tough lie.



ABOVE: It's Wales so its time for a spot of choral entertainment.

LEFT: Spectators check out where the best places to watch the golf can be found.

RIGHT: Ian Woosnam hits an iron shot into a green.



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Public Notices

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT, 1990

NOTICE is hereby given that application has been made to the Council for planning permission for the undermentioned developments:

Developments in Conservation Areas

Application No:	2009/00583/FUL
Proposal:	Proposed two storey extension to side and rear, with proposed single storey porch to front
Location:	34, The Broad Shoard, Cowbridge
Conservation Area:	Cowbridge with Llanblethian
Application No:	2009/00597/FUL
Proposal:	Demolition of 2 no. existing outbuildings and construction of Coach House dwelling (2 no. bedrooms) on land to rear of 9, Bradenham Place. Change of use of existing offices at ground and first floor level at 9, Bradenham Place to 3 no. Apartments and associated internal and external alterations. Widening of existing crossover from Hickman Road
Location:	9, Bradenham Place, Penarth
Conservation Area:	Penarth
Application No:	2009/00599/CAC
Proposal:	Demolition of 2 no. existing outbuildings on land to rear of 9, Bradenham Place, Penarth
Location:	9, Bradenham Place, Penarth
Conservation Area:	Penarth
Application No:	2009/00601/LBC
Proposal:	Extend existing conservatory, insert 2 no. sets of doors, demolish walls inside kitchen, demolish walls between kitchen/conservatory
Location:	13, Marine Parade, Penarth
Conservation Area:	Penarth
Application No:	2009/00604/FUL
Proposal:	Alterations to existing garage
Location:	3, Woodford House, Colhugh Street, Llantwit Major
Conservation Area:	Llantwit Major
Application No:	2009/00609/FUL
Proposal:	Demolition and rebuild of double garage, erection of two storey extension in place of garage with disabled amenity
Location:	2, Readers Way, Rhosee
Conservation Area:	Rhosee
Application No:	2009/00611/FUL
Proposal:	Alterations to barn for use as a separate dwelling
Location:	Barn adjacent to Franklen House, Llyswoorney
Conservation Area:	Llyswoorney

Conservation Area Consent

Application No:	2009/00599/CAC
Proposal:	Demolition of 2 no. existing outbuildings on land to rear of 9, Bradenham Place, Penarth
Location:	9, Bradenham Place, Penarth
Conservation Area:	Penarth

Listed Building Consent

Application No:	2009/00601/LBC
Proposal:	Extend existing conservatory, insert 2 no. sets of doors, demolish walls inside kitchen, demolish walls between kitchen/conservatory
Location:	13, Marine Parade, Penarth
Listed Building:	Grade II

Full details (including plans) may be inspected during normal working hours for a period of 21 days in the offices of the Head of Planning and Transportation at the address given below.

Dated: 25 June, 2009

Rob Thomas
Head of Planning and Transportation
The Vale of Glamorgan Council,
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Children's welfare gets inspectors' approval

THE children's services department in Bridgend county borough, which had been put under special scrutiny by Assembly inspectors, has worked its way out of that spotlight.

Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) has been congratulated by the Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales (CSSIW) for substantial improvements in its children's services, which have resulted in the lifting of a 'serious concern' protocol.

A recent review by CSSIW found that social services staff and managers have "continued to work hard to secure further improvements, and have established more robust systems for consistent assessment of risk and effective decision making".

The "corporate leadership" for children's services were also praised.

Chief Inspector Rob Pickford said: "The authority now responds much more promptly and effectively to initial concerns about children, and is much more reliable in planning for their welfare and reviewing progress."

"It has better systems to manage its own performance and monitor its own progress. The relationship between the inspectorate and the authority can now revert to one of normal business, with the inspectorate checking progress through our normal programme of inspection and reviews."

Coun Mel Nott, Leader of BCBC, said: "I welcome this excellent news. As a cabinet, we have been determined to see a sustained and substantial improvement in this area, and I have been very closely involved in monitoring progress."

"I know how dedicated staff within the children's directorate have been to making this happen."

Coun Alana Davies, the cabinet member for children and young people, said: "I am passionate about the welfare of our children and young people, so I am truly delighted about the good work which is now being achieved in this service area."

Jo Farrar, chief executive of BCBC, said: "This is not the end of the improvements. Children's services have been, and remain, a corporate priority, but this is a very positive building block for the future."

Vale planning applications

Mr David Jones, 4 New Barn, St Athan – two storey extension and detached double garage.
Mr T Cuddihy, Gatekeepers Lodge, Hayes Point, Hayes Road, Sully – double garage with ancillary office/studio, amendment to 05/00893/FUL.
Mr and Mrs O'Neill, The Bowers, Coldbrook Road West, Barry – retention of alterations to existing building. Mrs Sue Culberson, 4 Old Port Road, Wenvoe – addition of a front porch and garden tool shed.

Mr David Green, 27 St Pauls Avenue, Barry – rear single storey extension to enlarge kitchen and dining room and garage extension.

Mr S Hopkin, 34 The Broad Shoard, Cowbridge – two storey extension to side and rear, with single storey porch to front.

Mr Ian Campbell, The Croft, Heol y March, Bonvilston – first floor addition and extensions to provide double garage and bedrooms to an existing ground floor only bungalow.

Mr Paul Hopkins, St Annes, Romilly Park Road, Barry – two-storey extension providing kitchen, utility, wc, bedroom and bathroom.

Mr Stephen Jones, 1 Phyllis Street, Barry Island – demolish existing garage/workshop (single storey), redevelop two-storey coach house on same location.

Mr Terry Donovan, 56 Redlands Avenue, Penarth – change use of existing garage, including rear extension to create a one-bedroom detached dwelling.

Mr and Mrs Briley, 5 Britten Road, Penarth – conservatory to rear of property.

Mr and Mrs Skinner, 63 Cog Road, Sully – retention of double height rear conservatory extension and single storey extension to kitchen with balcony above, and new rear dormer to accommodate patio door in lieu of two existing dormer windows, all as already built. Construction of two dormer windows on front face of house and new single storey garage on side of house.

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Family Notices

Wendy STREET

Peacefully at Holme Tower on June 21, 2009. Wendy of St Athan, beloved wife of David, loving mum to Debbie, David and Andrew, dearly loved mother-in-law, Nan and Great Nan.

You will always be loved and missed.

Funeral on Monday June 29, 2009 in St Tathan Church at 10.30am., followed by cremation at Coychurch Crematorium at 12 noon.

Flowers may be sent to WA Brown & Son, College St., Llantwit Major. Tel: 01446 792489.

Dave Pearson

One year has passed,
 No time to say goodbye,
 Just goodnight and God bless you,
 Until we meet again one day,
 Love and miss you more than words can say.

All our love, Joan,
 Pam and Trisha. XXXX

THACKER Nicola (Nic)

Peacefully at home on June 21, Nicola of Llantwit Major (formerly Yorkshire). Beloved partner of Ed, devoted mum of Ellis. Much loved daughter of Godfrey and the late Marie. A loving sister of Joanne. Greatly missed by Lauren, Joan, Gemma, Anthea, her family and friends.

Funeral service in St Catwys Church, Llanmaes, on Tuesday June 30 at 10am, afterwards to Coychurch Crematorium. No flowers by request, please, donations if wished to Marie Curie Cancer Care, Holme Tower Hospice, Bridgeman Road, Penarth.

All enquiries to WA Brown & Son, College St., Llantwit Major. Tel: 01446 792489.

Dave PEARSON

Precious memories of a dear dad, grandad and great-grandad who passed away on June 26, 2008.

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Grant Wilson

Ar ran Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd

Dyddiedig 25/6/09

ENVIRONMENT AGENCY
 WATER RESOURCES ACT 1991

(AS AMENDED BY THE
 ENVIRONMENT ACT 1995)

NOTICE OF APPLICATION
 FOR CONSENT FOR THE
 PURPOSES OF SECTION 88

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN in accordance with Schedule 10 of the Water Resources Act 1991 that an application has been made to the Environment Agency by Vale of Glamorgan Council for consent to discharge up to 7.3 cubic metres per day of secondary treated sewage effluent to tributary of River Thaw at National Grid Reference SS 99933 71972 from Llanfair Primary School, The Herberts, St Mary Church, Cowbridge, CF71 7LT.

Any person who wishes to make representations about the application should do so in writing to The Environment Agency, Water Quality Permitting Support Centre, PO Box 4209, Sheffield, S9 9BS, during the period 25/6/09 to 6/8/09 quoting reference NPSWQD007980.

Please be aware that any representation may be made available to third parties under the Freedom of Information Act or Environmental Information Regulations 2004.

A copy of the application may be inspected free of charge at the Local Environment Agency office at Rivers House, St Mellons Business Park, Fortran Road, St Mellons, Cardiff, CF3 0EY between the hours of 9 am and 4.30 pm Monday to Friday (not Bank Holidays).

Grant Wilson

On behalf of The Environment Agency

Dated 25/6/09

That's better! Bowlers find some form again with big rink shake-up

CADOXTON V TAFFS WELL CML2

AFTER last week's disaster, there was a complete shake-up of all the Cadoxton rinks, and it produced a much better performance against Taffs Well, at home.

Kelvin Chedgoy returned to the mat, with Ivor Robertson introduced as third.

They took an immediate lead and were never overtaken during the game, although the scores were level on two occasions.

After a third of the game on end seven, the score was six each. Then on the following third the opponents caught up once again at 11-11.

The final part was finished in style with the hosts collecting three threes and a single with only three singles against.

A completely new rink renewed an old partnership with Andrew Hatcher returning to play third to Don Kuhnell.

They were supported by Howard Hellyar and Viv Thurston.

In blustery but dry conditions the bowling was superb on both sides with the shot changing bowl after bowl.

Cadoxton took the initiative from then on to take a 1 shot advantage.

The next end brought a lapse when Don faced six shots against, but

drew the shot with his final bowl. This was followed on the next end with holding seven shots and the opposing skip getting a last bowl saver from second shot.

Gary Jones had Derek Brook added to his rink as second and were not headed throughout the game.

They had built an eight-shot lead with six ends left, but a phase of inspiration from their opponents brought the difference to just one. Two twos to finish ensured two more home points.

Graham Brown's new look rink included Tony Bishop, back from a few weeks break, at lead, with Dai Tuck, and Les Cundliffe completing the four.

They took an early lead, which was held until the opponents eventually drew level at 13-13.

The next end proved unlucky for the home side when a five, was conceded, which they failed to recover from.

Scores: T Bishop, D Tuck, L Cundliffe, G Brown

17-23; H Hellyar, V Thurston, A Hatcher, D Kuhnell 17-11; W Eadie, W Vaughan, I Robertson, K Chedgoy 21-14; P Ellis, D Brook, J Davies, G Jones 18-13. **Final score: 73-61.**

CADOXTON V CYFARTHFA CASTLE CML2 UNFORTUNATELY, Cadoxton A side had to

make the long trip to Cyfarthfa Castle, a new addition to the league, with two players short.

Mike Curtis skipped one of the short rinks to a very pleasing success, by winning 15 of the 21 ends. John Stewart and Bob Knight gave him able support.

However, on the other triple, the result was reversed with Graham Garland conceding 15 of the ends.

A bad start on Alan Carpenter's rink left them 7-0 down and they were never able to get back into contention.

The fourth rink was skipped by Roy Harding, and they started by conceding a five on the opening end.

On the fifth end they took the lead, which was increased to a 10 shot advantage by the 13th end.

The success seemed to have been forfeited when 11 shots against were scored over the next seven ends.

Nevertheless, they stuck to the task and got the necessary two shots required on the final end.

Scores: R Doble, G Solomon, D Evans, R Harding 20-19; G Powell, L Little, G Davies, A Carpenter 12-21; B Knight, J Stewart, M Curtis 26-14; D Collard, I Dunbar, G Garland, 10-28. **Final score: 59-82.**

CADOXTON V WINDSOR MUNRO CUP

CADOXTON were hosts to Windsor in this Munro Cup match with two winning rinks each.

The home side had an advantage of 11 shots with their successful wins, but the opposition's difference was 30.

The biggest difference was on a rink which unfortunately had to be

changed just prior to the game due to the unavailability of skip Don Kuhnell.

Jim Davies took over as skip on a now weak looking rink, against the experienced Mal Hope.

They did hold their own for six ends with the score at 3-3. However, during the remaining 12 ends only two shots were scored.

The other losing rink came with what seemed a strong setup, but they came up against the experienced Ken McLeod as opposing skip who continuously stopped them scoring by turning over any advantages they produced.

Alan Carpenter returned to his winning ways, in the Munro Cup, when he skipped his rink to a good win despite conceding a five on the penultimate end against Tom Fahey's four.

Graham Brown had some good early service from his lead Bob Knight, which aided them in gaining an early advantage against the opposing rink skipped by John Hardess.

The game continued to completion with the score always in the home team's favour, with Mike Curtis and Les Cundliffe playing their part.

Scores: G Solomon, R Doble, G Davies, J Davies 5-23 J Thomas, B Rogers, E Thorne, M Hope, D Evans, J Sugden, J Stewart, A Carpenter 15-13 J Price, C Lewis, A Dudley, T Fahey, B Knight, M Curtis, L Cundliffe, G Brown 19-10 M Fullbrook, M Lloyd Jones, R Owen, J Hardess, D Jones, G Jones, I Robertson, K Chedgoy 12-24 R Lewis, P Gooding, T Holmes, K McLeod. **Final score: 51-70.**

DK

Cadoxton ladies struggle as Romilly take plaudits



THE week commencing June 15 was not one of Cadoxton ladies' most successful ever.

The first match of the week, the evening league was cancelled, and due to other bowling pressures the points were shared with Barry Athletic.

The very heavy showers through the day had made the green waterlogged and unfit to play.

June 18 league match was held at Cadoxton with the visitors Romilly Ladies.

The heavy winds made it difficult to keep upright on times but the ladies battled on. Romilly taking a resounding victory.

Rink one: Cadoxton - M Slee, J Watkins, A Rees, D Davies 10, Romilly - J Coles, P Cogbill, J Donavon K Bryan 28.

Romilly made an excellent start gaining eight shots in the first six ends. Skip Kath Bryan did an excellent job in taking Cadoxton's shots off several times.

The scores were fairly even up to the 12th end of this 18 end match but Romilly forged ahead and Cadoxton were unable to make an impression on the scoring.

Rink two: Cadoxton - Joy Wood, P Davies, N Hitchens, Paula Currie 8, Romilly - M Werner, J Davies, J Jeeves, N

Goodrich 27.

The ladies started well and the score was even on end five. After this Cadoxton didn't score until 14th/16th ends when they scored one shot each end. Scoring steadily Romilly finished in fine style by taking seven shots on the last two ends.

Rink three: Cadoxton - A Jones, N Clissett, D Evans, J Tuck 16, Romilly - M Lalande, A Shepherd, B Freeman, M Newman 18.

This was a very exciting game with the scores being fairly even throughout the game. On end 12 the Cadoxton ladies were ahead 13/10. Romilly scored on the next four ends to bring the score up to 17/13 in their favour.

Cadoxton were able to

recover and took three on end 17 but not enough to seal a win.

DOT DAVIES ON JUNE 16, Cadoxton Ladies dressed in their club colours and played a club competition 'Katie's Cup'.

This competition is in memory of Katie Selley a very long and respected member of Cadoxton Ladies Bowling Club.

The cup was presented to the club by her husband George, and every year we remember Katie and her contribution to the club.

The competition is a fun game and points are gained by each lady playing with three woods. The shot gaining three points, second two and third one. It is

ABOVE: Cadoxton ladies in their club colours.

played over 12 ends, with the highest scorers going forward to the semi-final.

Semi-final winners were: J Tuck, M Paterson, P Currie, D Evans P Davies and M Slee

The highest scorers of the semi-final were: J Tuck and D Evans who then played in the final.

In a very exciting final, both ladies battled well and the score was equal going into the last end. Jean Tuck took the competition by just one point. Congratulations to Jean Tuck well done to Dianne Evans, an excellent day to commemorate 'Katie'.

Pencoed Lifesaving club open to junior members

PENCOED and District LifeSaving Club is finally able to open its doors to new junior members aged 10-15 years.

For many years, the junior lifesaving club waiting-list has been prohibitive, with members travelling from far and wide, from Llantwit and St Brides through Bridgend and district and as far as Llantrisant.

Recent intakes have allowed the July intake list to be thrown-open to

this year's applicants. Swimmers under 15, boys and girls of 'Gold' standard, who are able to swim a strong six lengths and tread water for five minutes are invited to leave their details at Pencoed swimming-pool for Thursday evening, or telephone 01656 667640 to join the club.

Royal LifeSaving Society standards 1-2-3 are taught by qualified coaches from 7-8pm and the senior club trains for the RLSS bronze medalion from 8-9pm with further First-Aid and resuscitation training.

Selected members over 16 may be offered training and qualification as an RLSS assistant teacher, to develop their life skills. For those undertaking physical education in school, earning their bronze medalion counts for up to 30 marks in their GCSEs.

The club is a 'social-swimming club' with qualification standards and does not run 'short-course' for direct or 'quick' qualification for the bronze medalion.

DAVE BIDDLES

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Llandow circuit charity day aims to raise £2,000

A CHARITY track day at Llandow motor circuit near Cowbridge on Thursday, July 16, expects to raise more than £1,000 for both the local Ed Evans Foundation and for the Royal Navy and Royal Marines Children's Fund.

The event provides an opportunity for drivers to experience speed in their own cars in a safe but interesting environment.

Spectators will be welcome, and entry is free.

The organiser, Christopher

Darwin, said: "We have been running fundraising events at motor circuits for several years. We have had two excellent days at Llandow in the last year, and are back for more fundraising fun."

"We have been well-supported by the circuit management and are looking forward to another enjoyable day."

"Cars on track will include several 1960s British sports cars as well as modern cars."

The Ed Evans Foundation was established in 2006 and has already raised more than £85,000 for Cancer Research Wales and

other charities. See www.edevansfoundation.co.uk.

The RN and RM Children's Fund provides support to children whose parents work, or have worked, for the Naval Service in areas including childcare, special needs education and in-home support in times of crisis. See www.rnmchildrensfund.org.

For further information about the track day, please contact Christopher Darwin on 01288 381265 or e-mail c.darwin@virgin.net.

Kitemark is symbol of quality body repair work

JUNE 18 saw the announcement of the Kitemark Vehicle Body Repair scheme.

Motorists can now choose a crash repairer to deliver a safe, quality repair by looking for the Kitemark symbol.

Mortorvation Body Repairs of Bridgend were awarded their Kitemark licence on September 30, 2008 and were one of the first body repairs to achieve the Kitemark.

The accident repair Kitemark was launched by Thatcham (insurer funded research organisation) and BSI two years ago to provide the

crash repair industry with recognisable standards to work to. It has received support from across the industry and has been fundamental to raising standards in the crash repair industry.

"We are 100 per cent behind the introduction of the Kitemark. As a crash repairer, it will enable us to assure our customers and the insurers we work with the vehicles going through our bodyshop have been repaired using safe and demonstrable quality procedures," said Mr Julian Allen of Mortorvation.

ROAD WORKS IN THE VALE

Dock View Road junction with Thompson Street, Barry – ongoing temporary traffic signals.

Sully Road, between Penarth and Sully (near Ashgrove School) – ongoing intermittent traffic control to allow construction of new access.

Gileston Road, St Athan – temporary traffic signals.

B4267 Lavernock Road, Penarth near Brockhill Rise – intermittent temporary offpeak traffic signals until July 15, for essential water works.

A4055 Cardiff Road between Dinas Powys and Barry – temporary traffic signals in operation, following a landslide, while repairs are undertaken.

Holton Road, Barry near Courtenay Road – temporary traffic signals in place on Friday, June 26, to allow maintenance to a manhole cover and frame (off-peak only).

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Dinas owner stakes claim for piece of Welsh racing history

LLANCARFAN trainer Evan Williams made horse racing history at Britain's newest racecourse at Ffos Las in Carmarthenshire last Thursday evening when saddling the first ever winner at the 10,000 sell-out inaugural meeting.

The horse that raced into the record books was a six-year-old bay gelding called *Plunkett*, owned by Hywel Jones of Dinas Powys, who won The Freebets.co.uk National Hunt Novices Hurdle under Irish

jockey Donal Fahy.

Evan told me in the winners' enclosure after the race:

"We got the horse from Michael Hourigan about a month ago and all the credit must go to him as he said *Plunkett* was the type of horse we could do well with in the summer."

He added: "It means an awful lot, as a Welshman, to come here and get the first winner."

"But we have to get up in the morning and go and do it elsewhere so it's important to keep a level head about it all."

Plunkett's delighted

ON AND OFF THE TURF with Brian Lee

owner said: "It's a historic moment and I'm proud to win this first race at this amazing brand new racecourse."

"We planned ahead and as I said to Evan, we would love to come down here and win the first race."

"As a proud west Walian, I wanted to show that west Wales is a hard place for anyone outside the area to win."

"I said to Evan, find me a horse to win that prize."

"Evan went away and found the horse he

believed would win the first race at Ffos Las. The man did what he said he would and we won the race-job done."

Later in the evening, Evan's Danehill Willy, ridden by champion National Hunt jockey Tony McCoy, won the Ffos Las Live On At The Races Novice's Chase.

Danehill Willy was the second leg of a hat-trick for McCoy, who also won on *Sea Wall* and *NoStringsAttached* for leading trainer Jonjo O'Neill.

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A/c, cd, bluetooth £11995

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07 57 GALAXY 1.8 TDCi Ghia.

A/c, cd, 7 seats £13995

CONVERTIBLES

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08 58 VAUXHALL Astra 1.6i Twin Top

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08 08 FUSION 1.4 Zetec Auto 5-dr.

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07 07 FUSION 1.6 Auto 5-Dr Zetec.

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06 06 FUSION 1.6 Zetec Auto 5-dr.

A/c, cd, alloys. £7295

06 06 FOCUS 1.6i Zetec Climate 5-dr

Auto. A/c, alloys, cd. £6995

06 06 FOCUS 1.6 LX 5-dr Auto.

A/c, cd, electrics £6495

06 06 FOCUS 1.6 Sport Estate Auto.

Alloys, a/c, cd. £6495

06 06 C-MAX 2.0 Zetec Auto.

Alloys, a/c, cd, choice £6995

06 55 FIESTA 1.4 Zetec Climate Auto

3-dr. Alloys, a/c, cd. £6295

06 55 FOCUS 2.0 Ghia 5-dr Auto.

Alloys, cd, cruise £6995

06 55 C-MAX 2.0 Ghia Auto 5-dr.

Alloys, a/c, cd. £7295

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08 08 TOYOTA Aygo Blue 1.0 VVTi

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Expression 3-dr. A/c, cd £6495

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06 06 NISSAN Note 1.4 SE 5-dr.

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06 06 TOYOTA Yaris T3 3-dr.

A/c, cd, met. grey, under 15k miles £6495

06 06 RENAULT Modus 1.4 Dynamique

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05 55 PEUGEOT 206 1.4 Sport 3-dr.

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05 05 KIA Picanto 1.1 LX 5-dr.

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04 54 VAUXHALL Meriva 1.6 Life 5-dr.

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04 04 RENAULT Megane 1.4

Expression 5-dr. A/c, cd £4495

04 04 VW Polo 1.2S 3-dr.

A/c, cd, electrics £4295

03 03 NISSAN Micra 1.2 SE 5-dr.

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07 1.1i Design 3dr Hatch	Black	16,900miles	£6,495
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08 1.6i 16v Exclusive	Blue	12,010miles	£9,995
07 1.6i 16v VTR Plus 3dr Coupe	Black	26,652miles	£7,995
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06 1.6i 16v SX 5dr Hatch	Beige	13,520miles	£6,995
06 1.6i 16v VTR 3dr Coupe	Grey	35,508miles	£6,495
06 1.6i 16v SX 5dr Auto Hatch	Red	16,379miles	£6,495
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56 1.6i 16v Desire Estate	Silver	18,544miles	£6,495
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- 04 04 MINI 1.6 Cooper Pepper 3-dr Hatchback. In chilli red with half leather interior, rear spoiler, alloy wheels, air con, only 50,170 miles £7,995
- 04 04 BMW 3 Series 2.0 318ci ES 2-dr Coupe in met silver grey with anthracite interior, a/c, alloys wheels, 1 previous owner, 61,315 miles £7,995
- 03 03 MINI 1.4 TD One Salt Pack. In Indi Blue with beige and panther black full leather interior, automatic climate control, heated seats, electronic sunroof, £35 a year road tax, only 79,370 miles £7,495

CONVERTIBLES

- 05 55 VW Beetle 2.0 2-dr Cabriolet In reflex silver with black leather interior, heated seats, air con, CD, alloy wheels, only 25,010 miles £9,995
- 05 05 FORD Street ka 1.6 Luxury 2-dr Convertible in French met, blue with ebony black leather interior, heated seats, air con, elec windows, front fogs, cd, only 17,050 miles £6,495
- 03 03 FORD Street ka 1.6 Luxury 2-dr Convertible in street silver, black leather interior, heated seats, a/c, alloy wheels, only 69,700 miles £4,495
- 02 02 PORSCHE Boxster S 3.2 2-dr Convertible in brilliant silver with black leather interior, 18inch sport design alloy wheels, wind deflector, heated seats, only 38,850 miles £13,995
- 99 1 MAZDA MX5 1.8i 2-dr Convertible 10th Anniversary Limited Edition. In metallic blue with blue/black interior, alloy wheels, CD, alarm, immobiliser, body coloured bumpers, only 42,422 miles £4,995

EXECUTIVE/SPORTS

- 06 06 JAGUAR X-Type 2.0 Diesel S 4-Dr Saloon. In black with black leather interior, automatic climate control, CD, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, only 63,930 miles £8,995
- 06 06 FORD Mondeo 2.0 Titanium X 5-dr Hatchback in stardust silver with half black leather interior, quick clear front screen, 18 inch alloy wheels, heated front seats, cd, only 21,445 miles £7,995
- 06 55 TOYOTA Corolla 1.8 VVTi T Sport 3-Dr Manual Hatchback. In Red with sports seats and sports steering wheel, alloy wheels, front fogs, body kit, traction control, only 27,780 miles £7,995
- 05 55 VOLVO S40 2.0 Diesel SE in amethyst with ivory leather interior, cd, alloy wheels, cruise control, sunroof, electric seats, only 34,255 miles £9,995
- 04 54 TOYOTA Celica 1.8 VVTi Premium Coupe. In crystal silver with Montreal black leather interior, climate control, alloy wheels, immobiliser, deadlocks, alarm, CD, only 27,953 miles £8,995
- 04 54 JAGUAR X-Type 2.0 Diesel Classic. BPG with dark interior, air con, CD, alloy wheels, 63,000 miles £5,995
- 04 04 MITSUBISHI Shogun 3.2 TD Di-D Equipe 5-Dr Station Wagon in metallic green with dark blue interior, electric sunroof, alloy wheels, 7 seats, twin towing electrics, alarm, only 40,080 miles £8,995
- 04 04 SEAT Ibiza 1.9 TDI 130 FR 3-Dr Hatchback. In Flash Red with sport grid dark interior, alloy wheels, climate control, sports seats, traction control, CD, alarm, only 31,260 miles £6,495
- 02 55 AUDI A4 SE 2.0 Petrol 4-Dr Saloon Automatic. In Crystal Blue with phoenix cloth interior, parking sensors on front and rear, air con, CD, alloy wheels, electric windows, only 55,560 miles £5,995

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- 08 57 FORD Ka 1.3 Zetec Climate 3-dr Hatchback. In apple green with Cascade indigo interior, climate control, alloy wheels, CD, body coloured bumpers, heated front screen, only 3,873 miles £5,995
- 07 07 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2i 16v SXi 3-dr hatchback in black sapphire with black interior, air con, alloy wheels, cd, colour coded bumpers, only 19,615 miles £7,495
- 07 07 PEUGEOT 206 1.4 Look 3-dr Hatchback in aluminium silver with Madison graphite interior, air con, cd, electric front windows, only 9,120 miles £6,495
- 07 07 RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Extreme 3-dr Hatchback. In metallic black with dark interior, alloy wheels, CD, body coloured bumpers, front electric windows, only 19,005 miles £6,495
- 07 07 FIAT Grande Punto 1.2 Active 5-dr Hatchback. In chemical gray with drop blue black interior, central locking, CD, immobiliser, body coloured bumpers, only 22,120 miles £5,795
- 06 56 FORD Fiesta 1.25 Zetec Climate 3-dr Hatchback in tonic blue with tungsten/denim interior, air con, alloy wheels, quick clear screen, cd, front fogs, only 24,250 miles £5,995
- 06 06 PEUGEOT 206 1.4 Verve 3-dr Hatchback. In onyx black with madison grey interior, air con, alloy wheels, CD, low insurance, only 14,545 miles £5,995
- 06 06 RENAULT Clio 1.4 16v Dynamique 3-dr Hatchback. In odyssey blue with jacquard black interior, front fogs, alloy wheels, CD, only 35,870 miles £5,995
- 06 56 PEUGEOT 107 1.0 12v Urban 3-dr Hatchback. In Raven black with black matrix interior, electric windows, CD, colour coded bumpers, only 16,465 miles, £35 a year tax £5,995
- 06 06 SMART 700 Passion 3-dr Hatchback. 6-speed sequential gearbox in jet black with grey interior, air con, cd, alloy wheels, elec windows, only 11,235 miles £6,495
- 05 05 NISSAN Micra 1.2 16v Urbis 5-dr Hatchback. In Grey with dark grey interior, rear parking sensors, CD, alloy wheels, only 12,215 miles £4,995
- 05 05 FORD Fiesta 1.25 Style 3-Dr Hatchback. In metallic tonic blue with ebony interior, 17" upgraded alloy wheels, CD, colour coded bumpers, only 28,445 miles £4,995
- 04 04 RENAULT Clio 1.5dci Dynamique 5-dr hatchback in Odyssey met blue with jacquard black interior, sunroof, alloy wheels, air con, alarm, cd, only 31,538 miles £4,995
- 04 04 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2i 16v Life 3-dr Hatchback in star silver with orleans charcoal interior, central locking, CD, electric front windows, only 47,050 miles £3,995
- 04 04 FIAT Punto 1.2 16v Active 5-dr Hatchback. In crystal metallic with grey tek interior, immobiliser, electric windows, colour coded bumpers, only 10,170 miles £3,795
- 03 53 FORD Fiesta 1.4 TDCi Ghia 5-dr Hatchback in moon dust silver with bussac ebony interior, air con, cd, alloy wheels, colour coded, bumpers, only 43,745 miles, £35 a year road tax £4,995
- 03 03 TOYOTA Yaris GS 1.0L Petrol 5-dr. In dark green, with grey interior, central locking, CD, only 63,500 miles £3,495
- 03 03 FORD Ka 1.3 Luxury 3-Dr Hatchback. In metallic black with light Cyprus leather interior, electric windows, quick clear front screen, alloy wheels, CD, air con, only 48,741 miles £3,495
- 02 02 RENAULT Clio 1.4 16v Privilege 5-dr Hatchback. In Nordic green with vertigo grey interior, air con, 5 belted seats, body coloured bumpers, power steering, only 38,940 miles £3,995
- 04 04 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.0 Life 3-dr Hatchback. In breeze blue with Orleans charcoal interior, CD, 5 belted seats, steering wheel audio mounted controls, only 56,321 miles £3,495

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- 07 07 FORD Focus Zetec Climate 1.8 TDCi in moon dust silver with rack ebony interior, quick clear front screen, air con, alloy wheels, only 19,200 miles £8,995
- 06 56 FORD Focus 1.6 Ghia 5-dr Hatchback Automatic. In aquarius blue with cubical ebony interior, air con, cruise control, quick clear screen, only 26,900 miles £7,995
- 04 04 FORD Mondeo 1.8 Mistrial 5-dr. In Tonic Blue with majestic ebony upholstery, air con, central locking, CD, alloy wheels, only 61,165 miles £3,995
- 04 04 MG ZR- 1.4 3-dr. In metallic grey with half leather interior, electric windows, air con, alloy wheels, CD, only 63,335 miles £3,495
- 02 52 TOYOTA RAV 4 2.0 VVTi VX 5-Dr Station Wagon. In argenta metallic silver with Nebraska black leather interior, nulti CD, air con, alloy wheels, only 70,963 miles £5,995



05 05 FORD Fiesta 1.25 Style 3-Dr Hatchback. In metallic tonic blue with ebony interior, 17" upgraded alloy wheels, CD, colour coded bumpers, only 28,445 miles..... £4,995



04 04 MITSUBISHI Shogun 3.2 TD Di-D Equipe 5-Dr Station Wagon in metallic green with dark blue interior, electric sunroof, alloy wheels, 7 seats, twin towing electrics, alarm, only 40,080 miles..... £8,995



03 03 MINI 1.4 TD One Salt Pack. In Indi Blue with beige and panther black full leather interior, automatic climate control, heated seats, electronic sunroof, £35 a year road tax, only 79,370 miles..... £7,495



06 06 MINI 1.6 Cooper Chilli 2-dr Convertible. In metallic orange with half leather interior, CD, air con, alloy wheels, rear parking sensors, only 25,320 miles £11,995



02 02 PORSCHE Boxster S 3.2 2-dr Convertible in brilliant silver with black leather interior, 18inch sport design alloy wheels, wind deflector, heated seats, only 38,850 miles..... £13,995



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07 07 RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Extreme 3-dr Hatchback. In metallic black with dark interior, alloy wheels, CD, body coloured bumpers, front electric windows, only 19,005 miles..... £6,495



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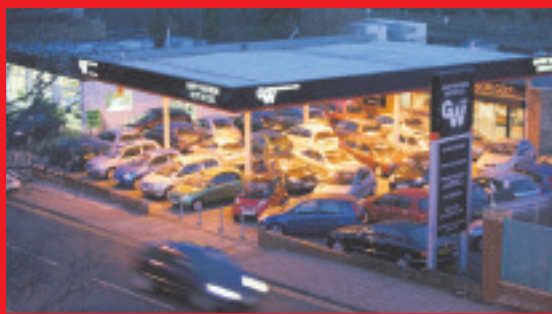
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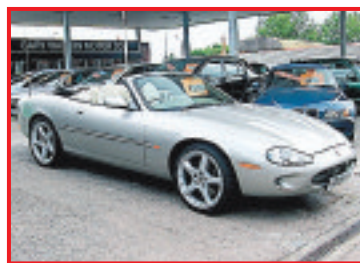
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V	MERCEDES SLK 230 Auto In silver with black leather, 60,000 miles with a/c, cd	£7,695
55	SMART Roadster 90 Triptronic Auto. In smoke silver, 1 owner, 47,000 miles, fun convertible	£5,995
V	BMW Z3 2.0 In met green with beige leather trim, 50,000 miles	£5,495
W	BMW Z3 1.8 In topaz blue, with blue roof and leather trim, 63,000 miles, fantastic value at	£5,495

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53	MERCEDES C200 Kompressor Avant Garde Automatic. In met blue with grey leather trim, 20,000 miles	£7,995
53	MINI COOPER S In met black, half leather, cruise control, 65,000 miles with a/c, pan-roof, superb example at	£7,995
53	JAGUAR S-Type 2.5 Auto SE. In seafrost with cream leather trim, multi cd, P/D/C, luxury motoring at	£6,995
02	BMW 330 Sport. In silver with black leather trim, 64,000 miles, superb value at	£6,995
02	LAND ROVER Freelander 1.8 GS 5-Dr. In champagne gold, 65,000 miles, 4x4 at	£3,995
02	ALFA ROMEO 147 1.6 T-Spark Lusso. In met. grey with grey leather, low miles	£3,695
01	FORD Maverick 3.0 Auto 5-Dr. In met. blue with black leather trim, 82,000 miles, 4x4 at	£3,495

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52	VW Polo 1.2 S 3-Dr. In electric blue, 59,000 miles with CD, air con, etc.	£3,495
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53	NISSAN Micra 1.0 S 5-dr Automatic. In met-green, only 21,000 miles, 2 lady owners	REDUCED BY £300 TO £2,695
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03 FORD Ka 1.3i Luxury, black, 48,000 miles, fsh, leather, a/c, pas, group 3 ins, low tax, immaculate cond

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04 FORD Focus 1.6 Zetec Auto Climate a/c, vogue grey, 4dr hatch, fsh, a/c, alloys, pas, elw, elm

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52 CITROEN C3 1.6 Exclusive (alc) 5dr in blue, only 35,000 miles fsh, Loaded with a/c, climate, elw, Grp 5 ins

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52 VOLKSWAGEN Polo 1.2 5dr (55) in ice yellow, ONLY 52,000 miles, alloys, a/c, power steering, CD, elw	£3,995
52 RENAULT Clio 1.2-16v Expression 5dr in yellow met, covered ONLY 66,000 miles, Immaculate 5dr, GRP 3 insurance, a/c, pas, elw	£3,495
53 MG ZR 1.4 105v 3dr in championship black pearl covered ONLY 43,000 miles, Genuine 105v with half leather, full bumper exterior pack, 17" alloy wheels, CD player, power steering, Affordable insurance. Please feel free to contact our sales team on 01446 738088, alternatively	£3,495
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X VAUXHALL Corsa 1.4 Comfort 3dr Automatic in electric blue, A Great looking 3dr Automatic Hatchback with just 55,000 miles. Stunning blue interior, this car is a rare find or anyone looking for an automatic with low miles and a very reasonable price of	£2,995
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52 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.0 Life 5dr Silver, ONLY 53,000 miles FSH, electric windows, remote locking, PAS, elm, ONLY GRP 3 insurance	£2,995
52 FORD KA 1.3i Style 3dr, 46,000 Miles Silver, 46,000 miles FSH, power steering, Grp 3 insurance, low tax, immaculate condition	£2,995
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X FORD Fiesta 1.3i 3dr Please feel free to contact our sales team on 01446 738088, alternatively call Tim on 07815 737694. Part exchange welcome, and many finance packages available	£795
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02 VAUXHALL Corsa 16v SXI 3-dr. Finished in black, alloys, radio/cd, sport seats, privacy glass, 69k£5295



55 FORD Fiesta 2.0 ST. Finished in red with 1/2 black leather trim, alloys, a/c, cd, 44k.....£6995



06 CITROEN C3 1.4 Stop and Start Sensitive Auto 5-Dr. Finished in met blue, a/c, s/r, radio/cd, reverse parking sensors, paddle shift, 16k.....£6295

CONVERTIBLES

- 06 PEUGEOT 206 CC 1.6 Alure. Finished in moonstone blue met, alloys, a/c, radio, cd, 28k£7495
 54 MG TF 1.6 (115). Finished in power grey met with black hood, alloys, radio/cd, e/w, pas, 57k£4,695
 03 PORSCHE Boxster 3.2 S. Finished in black with full grey leather, 18" upgrade alloys, a/c, sports seats, cd, electric hood, 60k£13795

SPORTS/EXECUTIVE

- 57 VAUXHALL Astra 1.9 CDTI (Diesel) (150bhp) 16v SRI. Met black, full black leather, sports seats, pas, alloys, a/c, 25k£9695
 07 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.6 VXR 3-Dr. Finished in met black, half leather, alloys, a/c, cd, sports seats, 23k£10695
 56 AUDI Q7 S-Line 3.0TDI (Diesel) Quattro. Finished in met black with black leather/suede interior, 20" alloys, climate control, cd, 1 owner, fsh, 28k£25995
 06 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 SXi+. Finished in met black with 1/2 leather sports trim, alloys, pas, c/l, e/w, radio/cd, 38k£5295
 55 BMW 525 SE (Diesel) Auto. Finished in met silver with full black Dakota leather, alloys, climate, cd, 1 owner fsh, 55k£12495
 55 AUDI TT Coupe (180) Finished in met grey with black leather/suede trim, alloys, aircon, cd, 62k£10995
 55 VW Golf 2.0 GT TDI (Diesel) (140) 5-dr. Finished in met grey, alloys, a/c, cd, fsh, 63k£8695
 55 FORD Fiesta 2.0 ST. Finished in red with 1/2 black leather trim, alloys, a/c, cd, 44k£6995
 05 MERCEDES ML 270CDI (Diesel) Automatic. Finished in light met blue with full grey leather, alloys, a/c, cd, 49k£12195
 05 VW Golf 2.0 GT TDI (Diesel) (140) 5-dr. Finished in met silver, alloys, a/c, radio, cd, multichanger, fsh, 39k£9795
 05 PEUGEOT 206 GTI 1.6 HDI (Diesel) 110 3-dr. Finished in aegian blue with full black leather, sports pack, alloys, a/c, multiplay cd, 44k£6495
 04 MINI Cooper 1.6 Auto 3-Dr. Finished in met silver with 1/2 black leather trim, full glass panoramic s/r, sat nav, climate control, alloys, multi-play cd£7995
 53 VW Golf 1.9 GT TDI (Diesel) 5-Dr. Finished in met silver, alloys, a/c, cd, 67k£6295
 52 BMW XS 3.0i 5-dr Automatic. Finished in met silver, full black leather, alloys, a/c, cruise, reverse parking sensors, cd/multi, 63k£9995
 52 PEUGEOT 206 GTI 2.0 3-dr. Finished in china blue met, leather/suede interior, pas, alloys, climate, cd£4295
 02 VAUXHALL Corsa 16v SXI 3-dr. Finished in black, alloys, radio/cd, sport seats, privacy glass, 69k£5295
 Y PEUGEOT 206 GTI 2.0 3-dr. Finished in met silver, black leather trim, alloys, climate, cd, 36k£3695

4x4 / MPV / ESTATE

- 07 NISSAN X-Trail 2.2 DCI (Diesel) SE 5-dr. Finished in black, alloys, a/c, cd, 76k£8495
 07 RENAULT Megane Dynamique 1.6 VVTi Sport Tourer. Finished in met grey/alloys, a/c, cd, 18k£6995
 56 AUDI Q7 S-Line 3.0TDI (Diesel) Quattro. Finished in met black with black leather/suede interior, 20" alloys, climate control, cd, 1 owner, fsh, 28k£25995
 56 VAUXHALL Zafira Design 1.9 CDTI (Diesel) 5-dr. Finished in met red with 1/2 black leather trim, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 7 seats, 26k£8495
 55 PEUGEOT Partner Totem 1.9 (Diesel) 5-dr. Finished in met ice blue, pas, c/l, e/w, cd, 33k£5495
 05 MERCEDES ML 270CDI (Diesel) Automatic. Finished in light met blue with full grey leather, alloys, a/c, cd, 49k£12495
 05 RENAULT Megane Sport Tourer Dynamique 1.9 DCI (Diesel) Estate. Met grey, alloys, climate, cd, fsh, 1 owner£4895
 05 RENAULT Laguna Expression 2.0 16v Sport Tourer. Finished in met grey, alloys, a/c, cd, electric s/r, 74k£3995
 54 MITSUBISHI L200 2.8 TD (Diesel) Warrior Double Cab Pick Up. Finished in met champagne silver with full black leather trim, alloys, a/c, radio, cd£5795
 54 FORD Focus C-Max 1.8LX 5-dr. Finished in moonstone blue, pas, c/l, e/w, a/c, radio, cd, 37k£4995
 04 MAZDA 6 2.0D TS (Diesel) Estate. Finished in met blue, alloys, a/c, cdm cruise control, 73k£5495
 04 SUZUKI Ground Vitarra SWB 1.6 SE. Finished in met green over silver, pas, c/l, e/w, radio/cd, a/c, 23k£4495
 03 NISSAN Almera Tino S 1.8 5-dr. Finished in met silver, pas, c/l, e/w, climate control, 43k£3695
 T MITSUBISHI Shogun GLS 2.8 TD LWB (Diesel) Automatic. Finished in met green, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 7 seats, 91k£3995

FAMILY CARS

- 07/57 VAUXHALL Astra 1.9 CDTI 16v SRI. Met black, full black leather sports seats, pas, alloys, a/c, 25k£9695
 56 CITROEN C4 VTR+ 1.6 5-dr. Finished in met silver, alloys, climate, cd, 24k£5995
 06 FORD Focus 1.6 Zetec Climate T 3-dr. Finished in moonstone silver, alloys, climate, cd, 1 owner, 33k£6295
 06 CITROEN C4 1.4 VT Coupe. Finished in met grey, pas, r/c/l, e/w, cd, 1 owner, fsh, 37k£4995



05 FORD Focus LX 1.6 TDCI (Diesel) 5-Dr. Finished in panther black met., pas, a/c, c/l, e/w, 82k.....£5495



52 BMW XS 3.0i 5-dr Automatic. Finished in met silver, full black leather, alloys, a/c, cruise, reverse parking sensors, cd/multi, 63k£9995



56 VAUXHALL Zafira Design 1.9 CDTI (Diesel) 5-dr. Finished in met red with 1/2 black leather trim, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 7 seats, 26k.....£8495



55 AUDI TT Coupe (180) Finished in met grey with black leather/suede trim, alloys, aircon, cd, 62k.....£10995

SMALL CARS

- 08 (New Shape) VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 Life 3-dr. Finished in black, pas, c/l, e/w, radio, cd, 15k£6995
 57 FORD Fiesta 1.25 Style 3-dr. Finished in jeans blue met, pas, a/c, radio/cd, e/w, 10k£6795
 57 SMART Fortwo Pure 71 Auto. Finished in black, pas, r/c/l, cd, 6k, only £35 per year road tax£5995
 07 FORD Fiesta Zetec Climate 1.4 TDCI (Diesel) 5-dr. Finished in black, alloys, a/c, cd, 42k, only £35 per year road tax£6795
 56 FORD Fiesta 1.4 Zetec Climate 3-dr. Finished in met moonstone silver, alloys, a/c, cd, 48k£6195
 56 CITROEN C3 Desire 1.4 HDI (Diesel) 5-dr. Finished in wicked red, pas, r/c/l, e/w, a/c, cd, 1 owner, 33k£5795
 56 CITROEN C1 1.0 Vibe 3-Dr. Finished in yellow, pas, radio/cd, rear wash wipe, 43k£4995
 56 HYUNDAI Getz 1.1 GSI 3-dr. Met ice blue, pas, c/l, e/w, a/c, cd, 27k£4695
 06 CITROEN C3 1.4 Stop and Start Sensitive Auto 5-Dr. Finished in met blue, a/c, s/r, radio/cd, reverse parking sensors, paddle shift, 16k£6295
 06 PEUGEOT 206 Verve 1.4 HDI (Diesel) 5-dr. Finished in met blue, alloys, a/c, cd, 36k£5995
 06 PEUGEOT 206 1.4 Verve Finished in black, sports seats, alloys, a/c, cd, 37k£5995
 06 CITROEN C3 1.1 Desire 5-dr. Finished in mauritius blue, pas, r/c/l, e/w, a/c, cd, 1 owner, 9k£5495
 05 MAZDA 2 1.4 Antares 5-dr. Finished in met grey, pas, c/l, e/w, a/c, 27k£5195
 05 VOLKSWAGEN Polo 1.2S 3-dr. Finished in Mars red, pas, r/c/l, e/w, a/c, 34k£4995
 54 RENAULT Clio Dynamique 1.5 DCI (Diesel) 3-dr. Finished in met silver, alloys, s/r, cd, 70k, only £35 a year tax£4495
 04 TOYOTA Yaris 1.0 T3 5-dr. Finished in met silver, c/l, e/w, pas, 48k£4995
 04 RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Dynamique 5-dr. Finished in met silver, alloys, a/c, cd£4295
 04 FORD Fiesta 1.25 Finesse 3-dr. Finished in forest green, pas, cd£3995
 53 FIAT Punto 1.2 Active 3-Dr. Finished in lagoon blue met, pas, c/locking, e/w, radio/cd, 50k£3295
 53 RENAULT Clio 1.2 Dynamique 3-dr. Finished in red, pas, c/l, e/w, cd, 35k£4495
 53 PEUGEOT 206 1.4 Fever 3-dr. Finished in moonstone blue, pas, c/l, e/w, cd, 39k£3995
 53 FORD Ka 1.3 finished in met black, pas, radio/cd, alloys£3195
 52 FORD Fiesta 1.4 Zetec 5-Dr. Finished in met green, alloys, a/c, radio/cd, 54k£3795
 02 VAUXHALL Corsa 16v SXI 3-dr. Finished in black, alloys, radio/cd, sport seats, privacy glass, 69k£5295
 02 RENAULT Clio Dynamique 1.6 3-dr. Finished in met blue, alloys, a/c, cd£3295
 Y PEUGEOT 206 1.1 Style 3-dr. Finished in crystal met green, pas, c/l, e/w, cd£2695

COMMERCIAL VEHICLES

- 56 FORD Transit Connect 200 (Diesel) Finished in white, side loading door, ply lined, 62k£3995+VAT
 05 VAUXHALL Astra Envoy CDTI (Diesel) Van. Finished in orange, pas, r/c/l, 62k£2995+VAT

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T SAAB 93S Convertible
77k, p/hood, leather, a/con, alloys



W VW Golf 1.9 TDI
90k, 2 owners, e/pack, air con, 50mpg, low insurance, rare opportunity



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- 07 RENAULT Twingo 1.2 Dynamique 75.** 1 owner, 8k, alloys, air con, sports interior, low tax and insurance, superb £6495
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- 05 HONDA Accord 2.0 SE.** Service history, e/pack, alloys, a/con, reverse sensors, lovely example £5995
- 05 TOYOTA YARIS 1.4 D4D T3 5-dr** 1 owner & demo, 46k, fsh, cd system, e/pack, 65mpg, only £35pa tax £5995
- 54 CITROEN C2 VTS** Paddle shift Auto, only 2 owners, 50k, fun to drive, your for only £4495
- 04 BMW 316 ti ES** 2 owners, fsh, alloys, in gloss black. Yours for £5995
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- 53 SMART For Two City Pulse** Only 1 owner, only 40k with service history £4695
- 03 FIAT PUNTO 1.2 ACTIVE** 70k, lady owner, e/pack, low ins £2995
- 52 RENAULT Laguna 1.9 DCi Authentique,** fsh, 45+ mpg, only £2995
- 52 RENAULT MEGANE 1.4 Dynamique** 50k, e/pack, alloys, low ins £3495
- 52 PEUGEOT 206 1.4 LX** 70k, a/con, cd system, low ins £3495
- 52 DAEWOO MATIZ SE** 71k, 2 owners, e/pack, p/steering, low tax & ins £2395
- 02 FORD FIESTA 1.3 LX** new shape, 5-dr, fsh, 53k, in beautiful sky blue met £3995
- 02 PEUGEOT 406 Executive 2.0 HDi** 62k, s/history, leather, a/con, alloys superb mpg £2995
- 02 RENAULT LAGUNA 1.8 Expression** 60k, e/pack, CD system, air con, plush interior, ideal family hatch £2695
- 02 FORD FOCUS 1.8 TDCi LX** Fsh, alloys, a/con, e/pack, superb mpg, low ins £2995
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- 02 RENAULT LAGUNA 2.0 Privilege Touring Est** Top spec, ideal family estate, huge load area £2695
- 02 VAUXHALL Agila 1.2.** P/Steering, e/pack, low tax and insurance, viewing essential £2495
- 51 MGZT 2.5+ Touring.** 57k, fsh, alloys, half leather, air con, cd system, awesome estate at £3695
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- X CITROEN Xsara 1.4** low insurance, low tax, low price £1395
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54 CITROEN Berlingo 2.0 HDi
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04 54 RENAULT Megane Scenic 1.5 DCi Expression
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GEM sport

Can the Lions forget that first half nightmare and go on to fulfil a dream?

BACK PAGE COMMENT by Don John

THE general consensus of media opinion since last weekend's narrow defeat in Durban is that the British & Irish Lions have a great chance of putting mighty South Africa to the sword in Pretoria on Saturday.

Such optimism is understandably based on that remarkable turnaround in the last 30 minutes, when the Lions scored 14 unanswered points and had the world champions clinging on for dear life at the end to scramble a 26-21 win.

There is no doubt that the belated arrival off the bench of prop Adam Jones and hooker Matthew Rees was a decisive factor in restoring stability to a demoralised eight that had spent the previous hour in ignominious retreat.

While most had expected the Lions' scrum at least to provide a solid competitive platform against a front row that was generally considered inferior to them, this proved not to be the case.

In fact, one of the saddest sights of all was to see the dejected figure of England's veteran World Cup winning prop Phil Vickery trudging off, after being cruelly dismantled by Tendai 'the Beast' Mtwariri in a nightmare first half for both him and his team.

Not that the string of penalties Vickery conceded was the sole cause of Lions' first half disarray, for they were struggling in the line-out and at the breakdown and also wasting golden chances

against fired-up Springboks who threatened to blast them off the park, after a quick-fire try by skipper Jon Smit.

Four successful penalty kicks followed, interspersed with a fine try by Tom Croft, set up by the increasingly impressive centre pairing of Jamie Roberts and Brian O'Driscoll.

However, this still made the score at the interval 19-7 to a clearly dominant home team, who confidently expected to ram their superiority home in the second period.

One devastating rolling maul drove the Lions back half the length of the field, culminating in a converted try – but the expected scoring avalanche never came.

The Lions made positive substitutions from the bench, while (not for the first time) the overconfident South African coach did the opposite, replacing the core of his team with inferior players and the tide turned.

The now rampant Lions took advantage and when Stephen Jones converted late tries by Croft and Mike Phillips, South Africa were only too glad to hear the final whistle.

However, they will be a totally different proposition in the second test high up on the lung-bursting highveld in Pretoria on Saturday, and the Lions management have had much to ponder on selection-wise after Durban, with the fate of the series already hanging in the balance. Can they get the mix right this time?

For the travelling fans, as well as the thousands of tellywatchers back here at home, it promises to be another nail-biting afternoon that could again go to the wire.

NEW £1,000 KIT WILL HELP ATHLETIC UNDER-11s BUILD ON LAST SEASON'S SUCCESS

RIGHT:
The Bridgend Athletic under-11s rugby team show off their new kit to Danielle Mason, Barratt marketing manager, representing the team's sponsors.



BRIDGEND
Athletics under-11s rugby team are sporting a brand new kit, thanks to Barratt South Wales.

Martin Bennett, a coach with the team, made an approach for sponsorship.

The housebuilder, agreed to support the community club – which encourages local children to get involved with

a team sport.

"We rely entirely on sponsorship to keep the team running. We approached Barratt because it is a well-respected housebuilder which is also building locally.

"The 30 new kits cost £1,000, so we were delighted when Barratt agreed to pay for them.

"The new design of the kit is fantastic and the children feel very professional when they're playing matches," he said.

The Athletic under-

11s team was founded in 2004. All coaches are volunteers and children can train and play a game each week for only £1.50.

Adrian Bird, sales director for Barratt South Wales, said: "Bridgend Athletic is a fantastic club and it was a great pleasure to provide the children with their new kits."

Local dentist's golf day boost for Macmillan

RIGHT:
Colin and the team of golfers who attended the Macmillan golf day.



LOCAL dentist Colin Rees recently organised a golf day at the Vale Hotel Golf & Spa Resort which raised

the fantastic amount of £1,850 for Macmillan Cancer Support.

Everyone had a great time, including the chap who ended up paddling in the lake!

Colin said: "I'm really pleased to be able to support Macmillan's great work in south east Wales. The VIP Dental Classic is going to be an annual event so if anyone is interested in taking part next year, please contact me at my dental practice which is situated in Eastgate, Cowbridge."

Sue Pickin, fundraising manager for Macmillan added: "I would like to say a huge thank you to Colin for all his hard work in organising this event on our behalf."

For more information on Macmillan Cancer Support or how you can help fundraise, please contact Sue Pickin on 01656 867966 or email spickin@macmillan.org.uk.

PYLE AND KENFID LADIES

RECENT results are as follows:

Jubilee Cup – winner, Lucy Evans, 94-23-71; runner-up, Cora Edwards, 89-15-74. **Hilton Trophy** (36 handicap cup) – winner Amy Rhys, 27 points.

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The GEM Quiz League posers of the week...

HERE ARE THIS WEEK'S TEASERS:

- 1) Who wrote the 2006 best seller *The Audacity of Hope*?
- 2) Only two species of mammals hatch from an egg. The anteater is one, which animal native to Australia is the other?
- 3) Who in 2008 became the first English Test batsman to be dismissed for 199?
- 4) Which Roman statesman and general committed suicide in Alexandria in 30 BC by falling on his sword?

A RUDGE
Hon Sec, BGQL

QUIZ ANSWERS:
1. Barack Obama.
2. The Duck-Billed Platypus.
3. Ian Bell.
4. Mark Antony.

INTER GET THEIR FIRST VICTORY

RACING INTER got off the mark in the new Bridgend Sunday Leisure League Premier Division campaign in awesome fashion, as Ben Rawlings helped them storm to a 6-1 drubbing of Oxymoron FC.

Bulldogs have won all three of their games so far after a 3-1 success over AC Brackla.

However, Mean Machine are above them on goal difference after their narrow 1-0 win over Coity Crusaders.

FC 08 claimed a first win of the new Division One season by romping home to a 9-1 rout of The Bluebirds, as Caleb Fuller starred.

Croissants were 2-0 victors over Craig's Rejects United. John Abbott ensured B Attack sneaked to a 1-0 win against Velindre Foundation Fundraisers.

If anyone is interested in joining the Bridgend League, call 0845 230 2340, or visit www.leisure-leagues.net.

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